India since Independence

Chronology of Events

1981 VIMLA KAUL VOL. 6

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On 15 August 1947 the tricolour banner of independent India was hoisted over the ramparts of the ancient Red Fort in Delhi. That day marked the beginning of the country's journey to rediscover itself. The history of free India is crowded with events of achievements and failures in every walk of life. Planners, executives, statesmen, research scholars, students, teachers, journalists and many other look round for correct date of an important—some times not important event which is just not available easily.

INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE is published with the object of providing handy reference to the chronology of events in the country. These volumes of the compilation, the first covering the events from August 15, 1947 to December 31, 1966 the second covering the decade 1967-77 and the third fourth and fifth covering the events of 1978, 1979 and 1980 respectively have already been published. The sixth volume contains a descriptive chronology of national events of the year 1981. The events given in these volumes are based on press reports. A consolidated index has been provided to add to its utility.

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INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Volume 6 : 1981

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INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

पुस्तकालय
गुरुकुल कांगड़ी विश्वविद्यालय

Volume 6 : 1981

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PREFACE

India Since Independence is published with the object of providing handy reference to the chronology of events in the country. These volumes of the compilation, the first covering the events from August 15th, 1947 to December 31st, 1966, the second covering the decade 1967-77, and the third, fourth and fifth covering the events of 1978, 1979 and 1980 respectively have already been published. The sixth volume contains a descriptive chronology of national events of the year 1981. The events given in these volumes are based on press reports.

A consolidated index has been provided to add to its utility.

Mrs. Vimla Kaul

New Delhi
March, 1984

1981

January	1	India's Permanent Representative to the UN, B.C. Mishra, has been unanimously re-elected Vice President of the UN Council for Namibia, the administering authority for Namibia till independence, for 1981.
	—	N. Krishnan was appointed as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. He will succeed B. C. Mishra. He is Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
	—	Union Finance Minister, R. Venkataraman, and the visiting Norwegian Foreign Minister, K. Freydenlund, signed an agreement setting forth the terms and conditions of Norwegian assistance for development projects in India. Under the agreement Norway will provide financial and technical assistance in the shape of consultants, ancillary awards for Indians selected for training in Norway as well as commodity assistance. The agreement will be valid till December 31, 1985.
	—	The World War II flying ace, Jaypal Jaykar, died in Pune. The only Indian to be commissioned as a pilot in the Royal Air Force, Mr. Jaykar (73) had three narrow escapes with death during the war.
	2	A commemorative stamp of late Maulana Mazharul Haque, a distinguished patriot and a pioneer of Hindu-Muslim unity, was released. Mazharul Haque was an associate of Mahatma Gandhi and founder of Sadaquat Ashram at Patna.
	3	Air Marshal M. S. D. Wollen has been appointed the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Air Command at Shillong.
	—	The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, has been selected by the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) for the Meghnath Saha Medal for his outstanding contribution to science.

January 3	Information and Broadcasting Minister, Vasant Sathe, inaugurated eighth International Film Festival of India.
—	Journalist Abhijit Roy Chowdhury died. He was 34.
—	Prof. Sergei P. Kapitza of the U. S S. R. won the Kalinga Award for popularising science for 1979. He was awarded the prize for his book "Life of Science" which had been approved by UNESCO in 1973.
—	Seventeen people died on the spot and 18 were injured when a bus going from Kishtwar to Gandhore, near Sanawan, 270 km from Jammu, fell into a nullah.
—	Sixty eighth session of the Indian Science Congress was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at Varanasi. Inaugurating the Congress, Prime Minister announced the formation of a commission on alternative energy to find ways to meet India's energy needs.
—	Surendra Nath Das, eminent painter and retired Principal of the Indian Art College, died. He was 98.
4	Air Marshal L.M. Katre, PVSM, AVSM, has been appointed Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command, New Delhi.
—	Arjun Arora, well known freedom fighter and a prominent trade union leader, died at New Delhi. He was 68.
—	The Fifth World Tamil Conference opened in Madurai. Inaugurating the seven day Conference and the International Seminar on Tamil studies conducted by International Association of Tamil Reseach, Tamil Nadu Governor, Sadiq Ali praised the glory and antiquity of Tamil and its culture.
—	Finance Minister, R. Venkataraman, visited Sri Lanka for 2 days. He signed an agreement with Sri Lanka Finance Minister, Ronnie de Mel providing for a creait of Rs. 10 crores to Sri Lanka for the purchase of machinery and equipment from India. Venkataraman also indicated that India would be prepared to consider as a special case additional financing for any project when the present credit is fully utilised.
—	A national convention on the Assam crisis attended by five national Opposition Parties including the CPI was held at New Delhi. The consensus was that the detection of foreign nationals on the basis of National register of citizens, electoral rolls and other relevant documents should start

immediately in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the Indian Citizenship Act. This would be a step towards resolving the crisis on the foreigners issue. The Government should withdraw the repressive measures it resorted to. The convention felt that the Government should start tripartite talks and the Parties to it should be the Government, the agitation leaders and the Opposition parties.

January 4 President of Bharatiya Janata Party released the list of office bearers of the Party at a press conference held in New Delhi. The vice presidents were :- K.S. Hegde, Vijay Raje Scindia, Ram Jethamalani, Sunder Singh Bhandari and Jagannath Rao Joshi. The Party's four General Secretaries were :- L. K. Advani, Sikandar Bakht, Yagya Dutt Sharma and Jana Krishnamoorthi. The Treasurer was Murli Manohar Joshi. The National Executive was to comprise 36 members and 14 special invitees.

— Prof M. G. K. Menon was appointed Chairman of the new commission on alternative source of energy which was being set up by the Union Government.

— The proposed indefinite strike from January 5 by 13,700 port and dock workers was called off as the Union Goverment accepted their demands for implementing the four-year wage agreement reached on November 28, 1980. The agreement was reached after discussions between Shipping and Transport Minister, Veerendra Patil, and leaders of four major federations of port and dock workers.

— The Union Minister of State for Rehabilitation and Civil Supplies, Bhagwat Jha Azad, inaugurated the Chambal deer park at Kota.

5 Agriculture Minister of Karnataka submitted his resignation, as desired by the Chief Minister, R. Gundu Rao, in a letter delivered to him dated 1st January.

— At least 10 people were killed and between 20 and 25 others were injured in the collision of a passenger train and a locomotive, about 43 kilometers north of Madrid.

— Chadalvada Venkat Rao, Congress—I member of the Rajya Sabha, died in a road accident at Mulapadu village, 20 km from Vijaywada.

— Kalyana Dutta Sharma was appointed Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court, according to an official communique.

— Marathi stage and screen actress Pushpa Bhosale, who was seriousloy injured in a lodge room in Kolhapur, died.

January 5 The one man P. N. Ray Commission appointed by Uttar Pradesh Government to inquire into the Baghpat incident on June 18, 1980 has rejected the encounter theory advanced by the police and held them responsible for the injuries to Maya Tyagi, wife of Ishwar Tyagi one of the three youngmen killed in the alleged encounter. While holding the police responsible for the indignities suffered by Maya Tyagi, the Commission rejected the allegation that she was raped at the Baghpat police station after the incident. The Commission indicted 10 police personnel, including three sub-inspectors, one head constable, and six constables. The name of one police officer who died during the enquiry was dropped.

— The Supreme Court ordered Bihar Government to produce before it within two weeks the original police diaries, jail and medical records, the documents pertaining to the CID report and the noting of Inspector General of prisos with regard to Anil Yadav and nine other undertrials allegedly blinded in Bhagalpur. The court also directed the State Government to state before it the steps taken by it to rehabilitate the blinded prisoners. The order was passed by the Chief Justice Y. V. Chandrachud and Justice E. S. Venkataramaiah after hearing the consul for the petitioners and the State.

6 The Algerian State Oil Company, Sonatrach will supply 500,000 tonnes of crude oil to India, said the Algerian news agency. Under the contract Algeria will charge the official price which is 40 dollars a barrel during the first quarter of 1981.

— Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Arjun Singh, stripped the Deputy Chief Minister, S. B. Solanki of the charge of medium irrigation work. Solanki was now left with only the portfolios of major irrigation schemes, jails, panchayat raj and rural development and social welfare.

— Baldev Prasad Sharma, a prominent INTUC leader and Vice President of the Madhya Pradesh Rashtriya Koyla Khandan Mazdoor Sangh, died.

— The Centre rejected the demands of Nasik farmers and made it clear that sugarcane prices for the season could not be disturbed. This was the outcome of the discussions by the Union Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh at two separate meetings with the Maharastra Chief Minister, A. R. Antulay, and the farmer's union leader Sharad Joshi. After the meeting, Sharad Joshi indicated that the agitation would have to be resumed on January 8 with greater force.

— Dev Prakash Rai, MLA from West Bengal and leader of All India Gorkha League, died.

January 6 The Reserve Bank of India announced a downward revision of the rupee by 1.31 percent in relation to pound sterling with immediate effect. The buying and selling rates have been fixed as to give middle rate of Rs. 19.10 per pound sterling compared with the existing rate of 18.70.

— Strength of Cabinet in Meghalaya was raised to 15 with the swearing in of two more Ministers by the Governor, L. P. Singh.

— Ten persons were killed and 30 injured when an Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation bus fell into a well at Konangivari Pallai, 35 km from Tirupati.

— The U.P. Government suspended all the 10 police personnel of the Baghpat police station named in the report of the one man commission which inquired into the Baghpat incident of June 18 last.

7 All Assam Student's Union (AASU) and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) allowed the Bongaigaon refinery, which had been closed for the past year, to resume production immediately.

— The Bharatiya Janata Party observed "Assam Day" all over India with a call for immediate deportation of all foreigners who entered Assam after 1971. BJP leaders and supporters held dharnas and observed mass fasts in some of the State capitals. In a memoranda, given to some States Governors, the Party demanded the identification of foreigners in Assam, revision of electoral rolls, deleting the names of foreigners, dismissal of the present State Government of defectors and election of a new Assembly based on revised electoral rolls.

— The Governor promulgated the Tamil Nadu Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1981, which would enable the Government to provide for stricter enforcement of discipline among certain essential services connected with water supply and electricity, passenger transport, goods transport, public health etc.

— K. V. Narayana Reddy, former Minister of Andhra Pradesh, died after a heart attack. He was 58.

— President Sanjiva Reddy gave assent to the National Security Bill which was passed by the Parliament in the last session. The Act, which replaced the Ordinance issued earlier, enabled preventive detention of citizens, of maintenance of law and order and of essential supplies and services.

January	8	The Government has notified the quantum of financial benefit which employees and pensioners will get as a result of its decision to revise their dearness allowance and pensions with effect from September 1 last year.
	—	Lakshmi Narayan Das, renowned physician and the classmate of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, died. He was 84.
	—	Lt. Governor Jagmohan administered the oath of office and secrecy to Justice Prakash Narain as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court.
	—	Lt. Governor of Goa, Daman and Diu, Col. Pratap Singh Gill, tendered his resignation to the President with request that it may be accepted with immediate effect.
	—	President N. Sanjiva Reddy appointed Justice Madhukar Shanker Jamdar and Justice Ramchandra Waikar, additional judges of the Bombay High Court, to be judges of that court with effect from the date they assume charge.
	9	An agreement on financial and technical collaboration for a Rs 1242 crore gaint aluminium complex in Orissa signed between the Government of India and Aluminum Pechener of France will be financed by French Government and French export credit worth $400 million on soft terms.
	—	Air Commodore M.M. Singh has been promoted to the rank of Air Vice Marshal and appointed senior air staff officer, South-Western Air Command, Jodhpur.
	—	At least 20 persons were killed and four injured when a Nagaland Government vehicle met with an accident in Tuensang district, according to reports received in Kohima.
	—	The 82 year old associate of Gandhiji, Bawa Balwant Singh, died.
	—	India and Indonesia signed at Bombay an agreement of cooperation on utilisation of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.
	—	The Indo-Bangladesh talks on Ganga water adjourned in New Delhi, without the review of 1977 agreement being concluded. In the process, the two delegations have set aside the mandate contained in the agreement that the review should be completed by December 5 at the latest. Both the delegation leaders, Rao Birendra Singh of India and Kazi Anwarul Haque of Bangladesh, claimed that a lot of ground has been covered in the talks, but refused to elaborate.

January 9 King of Bhutan. Jigme Sinye Wangchuk arrived in New Delhi on a three day official visit. He was given a warm welcome by President N. Sanjiva Reddy and the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

— Ramesh Chandra Shukla, High Commissioner-designate of India to Trinidad and Tobago, has been concurrently accredited as High Commissioner of India to Dominica with residence in Port of Spain.

— Twelve persons were killed and 60 injured when a lorry overturned near a village, 35 km from Zahirabad, in Medak district.

10 The Union Government gave 90 days time to Laldenga and his Mizo National Front (MNF) to accept its offer for a political settlement of the decade-old insurgency in Mizoram, according to an official source in New Delhi. Thereafter the Government will be free to act unilaterally. The Centre's offer to Laldenga consists of elevating Mizoram's status from Union Territory to fullfledged State. Under the Centre's offer the MNF will be required to surrender arms in possession of the MNF. It has been made clear to Laldenga that the Government could not agree to the MNF proposal for creating a free zone in the southern parts of Mizoram adjacent to Burma, Bangladesh and Tripura, by withdrawing security forces from there.

— The Union Minister of Education and Culture, S. B. Chavan, left for Rabat on a four day visit to Morocco.

— The Veteran Congress worker and freedom fighter, Mrs. Vidyabai Devadia, died. She was 74.

11 A fourteen member US Senate delegation led by Lvil Price arrived in New Delhi on a two day visit to India for discussion with the Government leaders on the Indian Ocean and the military affairs in Indian Ocean region. The mission held discussions with the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on a number of subjects including the international situation, Afghanistan, developments in the Indian Ocean and biateral relations.

— Noted artist and painter Mani Sain died at his South Calcutta residence following heart attack. He was 91. He was the first curator of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute in Darjeeling.

12 In a major bid to attack unaccounted money and canalise it for productive purposes, the Government promulgated an Ordinance providing for a scheme of Special Bearer

bonds, 1991. The bonds of the face value of Rs. 10,000 will be issued at par with a maturity period of 10 years. On maturity, the holders of the bonds will be entitled to receive Rs. 12,000 for every bond. There will be no limit on investment in the bonds. The scheme provided immunity for the original subscriber or possessor of the bonds from being questioned about the possession of the bonds or the source of money from which the bonds have been acquired.

January 12 Mani Ram Bagri was elected President of the Janata-S at its national convention at Varanasi.

— Ninteen books were selected for the Sahitya Akademi award for 1980. No awards were announced in Kashmiri, Manipuri and Telugu. The books announced were :- Assamese: "Prithibir Asukh" (short stories) by Jogesh Das, Bengali : "Shamba" (novel) by Samresh Basu, Dogri : "Ghar" (Poetry) by Kunwar Vijogi, English : "On the Mother" Vol. 1 and 2 (biography) by K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar, Gujarati: "Anunaya" (poetry) by Jayant Pathak, Hindi : "Jindaginama Jinda Rukh" (novel) by Krishna Sobti, Kannada "Americadalli Goruru" (travelogue) by Goruru Ramaswami Iyengar, Konkani: "Pisollim" (poetry) by Monohar Sardesai, Maithilli: "Ee Bataha Sansar" (novel) by Sudhanshu Shekhar Choudhary, Malyalam : "Smaraka Silkal" (novel) by Punathil Kunjabdulla, Marathi : "Salam" (poetry) by Mangesh Padgaonkar, Nepali : "Sunakhari" (novel) by Okiyama Gwyne, Oriya : "Abantar" (poetry) by Ananta Patnaik, Punjabi: Suraj Te Kehkashan (poetry) by Sukhpal Vir Singh Hasrat, Rajasthani : "Mharo Gaon" (poetry) by Rameshwar Dayal Shrimali, Sanskrit : "Kristubha Pavatam" (epic) by P. C. Devassia, Sindhi : "Yad Hik Pyar Ji" (novel) by Krishan Khatwani, Tamil : "Chereman Kodale" (novel) : by Kannadasan, Urdu : "Iqbal Ki Terah Nazamen" (literary criticism) by A. A. Ansari.

— The Union Cabinet approved the increase in the prices of petroleum products with immediate effect. The price of kerosene was raised by 10 paise per litre. Prices of petrol, high speed diesel and light diesel were raised by 37 paise per litre. The price of domestic cooking gas was raised by Rs. 5.03 kg cylinder.

— Volunteers of the All Assam Students Union and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad, offered Satyagraha all over the State in front of the offices of Deputy Commissioner, subdivisional officers and block development officers to protest against the Central Reserve Police Force atrocities and restriction on the Press.

January 13 All members of the Andhra Pradesh Council of Ministers, barring three who were away, handed over their resignations to the Chief Minister, T. Anjaiah to enable him reconstitute the Ministry.

— The Dashrathmal Singhvi award for national integration was presented to the noted Hindi author, Vishnu Prabhakar, at a function held at Triveni Kala Sangam.

— Five persons were killed and more than 20 injured when an Uttar Pradesh State Roadways Transport Corporation bus and a Truck collided on the Meerut—Agra section of the Grand Trunk Road, about 70 km from Meerut.

— A former Air India Managing Director, K.K. Unni, died in Houston, USA. Unni joined the airline in October 1960, rose to become the chief executive in 1973. He retired in 1977.

— Hooch tragedy in Andha Mughal (Delhi) claimed lives of seven persons. This was one of the worst incident in the past one year.

— Mamidipudi Venkatarangaiya, a noted author and educationist, died. He was 92.

— Raj Bhavan at Simla, the official residence of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh, was destroyed in fire. The Governor and his family had providential escape.

14 Chief Minister of Haryana, Bhajan Lal, filled six vacancies in his Cabinet, including the one caused by the resignation of Development Minister, Rao Ram Narain. He promoted three members of his Government as Ministers of State and reshuffled some key portfolios.

— K. Mhaske, a former member of the Maharashtra Assembly, died. He was 65, was MLA for two terms and Chairman of the Bombay Marketing Federation.

— Seven persons were drowned and 13 were missing when their boat capsized at the confluence of the Ganga and the Bay of Bengal on the occasion of Makar Sankranti.

— Sunil Batra won the legal battle for his life. The Supreme Court commuted his death to one of life imprisonment on both counts—murder and dacoity with murder. Sunil Batra was awarded by the trial court the capital punishment on charges of murder and dacoity in the sensational bank van dacoity case. His three co-accused were sentenced to life-imprisonment.

January 14 Tara Sapre, member of the Lok Sabha, died at Pune following a heart attack. She was 62.

15 The 50-day Rishang Keishing Ministry in Manipur was expanded with the induction of one Cabinet Minister of State.

— India and the Soviet Union decided to expand areas of co-operation in the field of oil exploration. This decision was arrived at after a meeting between D.A. Takoev, Deputy Oil Minister, who headed a five-member Soviet team and officials of the ONGC in Dehradun.

— The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has approved a loan of 17.5 million dollars for drainage and water control works over about 72,000 hectares and rehabilitation of irrigation facilities on about 15,000 hectares, in the Sundarban region of West Bengal.

— A three member bench of the Supreme Court upheld Union Civil Supplies Minister, V. C. Shukla's election to the Lok Sabha from Mahasamund in the 1980 general election which was set aside by the Madhya Pradesh High Court on the ground that he was disqualified to contest because of his conviction in the "Kissa Kursi Ka" case.

16 A cultural and scientific cooperation agreement between India and Morocco was signed in Rabat by the Minister of Education and Social Welfare, S. B. Chavan, and Mohamed Boucetta, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Morocco.

— Devenya Pavanar (85), noted philologist, died in Rajaji hospital in Madurai.

— The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry signed an agreement on cooperation to facilitate participation in trade fairs and exhibitions and visits by business delegations and exchange of information. They also signed a tripartite arbitration agreement involving the Indian Council of Arbitration also for quick settlement of trade disputes arising between the business organisations of the two countries.

— Giani Kartar Singh, member, Sikh Gurdwaras judicial commission for the past 16 years, died in Amritsar.

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January 16 India and Poland signed a new five-year (1981-85) trade and payments agreement providing for non-convertible Indian rupee as the mode of payment for all commercial and non-commercial transactions between the two countries. Both the countries also signed a trade protocol for 1981 envisaging a trade turnover of about Rs. 230 crores, indicating an increase of about 16 percent over the trade plan targets for 1980.

— Padam Kant Malaviya, freedom fighter, died in Allahabad. He was 73.

— Thirty five passengers were injured, seven of them seriously, when a contract bus bringing employees of the Gedore Limited, a tool manufacturing unit at Faridabad, fell from the flyover on railway tracks near Srinivaspuri (Delhi).

17 All Assam Students Union (AASU) said the seven-point formula suggested by Bharatiya Janata Party President A.B. Vajpayee, might form the basis of forthcoming negotiations on the foreigners issue.

— In a crackdown on illicit liquor trade following the recent hooch tragedy in Delhi which has so far claimed eight lives, the Delhi police arrested Balram Krishan of Jhadewalan on the warrant issued by the Police Commissioner under the National Security Act. Police detained two more persons, including a women, on 19th January, in connection with the liquor tragedy. The persons arrested were Inderjit alias Inder and Mani (woman).

— The President appointed B.K. Nehru as Governor of Jammu and Kashmir to succeed L.K. Jha.

— Sheika Tajamul Islam, President of the Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba, militant youth wing of the J and K State Jamiat-i-Islami, has been released on parole. He was arrested in August last on the eve of proposed international conference of Islamic youth and students.

18 The Air Force has increased the benefit for death and disability payable to its personnel under the Air Force group insurance scheme.

— Dr. Hari Vaishnav, President of the Association of Physicians, died in his sleep at Nagpur. He had gone there to attend the conference of the association. The 62 year old doctor was a retired professor of medicine and Head of the Department of Maulana Azad Medical College. Well known in Delhi medical circle, Dr. Vaishnav was the founder of the Delhi Society of Nephrology, Rheumatology, Endocrinology and Diabetics.

January 18 Fifteen bio-medical scientists have been selected by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for its national award for their outstanding contribution to research during 1980. The award winners are : Dr. N. C. Nayak, Dr. P. N. Tandon, Dr. S. C. Manchanda, Dr. (Mrs) Vinod Kansal (all from AIIMS (New Delhi), Dr. B. D. Gupta, Dr. R.J. Dash, Dr. V. K. Vinayak (all from PGI, Chandigarh), Dr. M. Chakravorty, Dr. G. P. Kattiyar, Dr. Sureshwar Mohanty (all from Institute of Medical Sciences, Varanasi), Dr. K. Prema (National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad), Dr. George Cherian, Dr. C. K. Job (both from Christian Medical College, Vellore), Dr. R. N. Basu (DGHS, New Delhi) and Dr. K. V. Desikan (Central Jaima Institute of Leprosy).

— A four storey commercial building in Jhandewalan Extention (Delhi) opposite the cycle market was completely gutted and property worth several crores destroyed in a blaze which brokeout shortly after 2 a.m. this morning.

— India and Czechoslovakia agreed on a cultural exchange programme for the period 1981-83 according to an official release. The agreement concluded in Prague on January 16, envisaged further intensification of cultural, educational, scientific, technical, sports and health exchanges between the two countries.

— Nine members of the outlawed People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK) surrendered before the Manipur Chief Minister, Rishang Keishing.

— The President has appointed Justice Rajappa Sengottuvelan and Justice Kuppusamy Attara Shanmukhan, Additional Judges of Madras High Court, as the Judges of Madras High Court with effect from the date they take charge of their offices.

19 Air Commodore, B. C. Sikand, has been promoted to the rank of Air Vice Marshal and appointed Air Officer Commanding, Jammu and Kashmir.

— Central Bureau of Investigation has arrested a transport operator in Bombay in connection with the murder of the Nirankari Chief, Baba Gurbachan Singh. Kundan Singh (40) was the fifth person to be arrested in the case since the CBI took over its investigation.

— The Chief Justices of two High Courts were elevated to the Supreme Court and those of two other courts were transferred to head the top benches in other States in a precedent-setting resolution of the long-pending hitch over

	high judicial appointments. Amarendra Nath Sen, Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court and V. Balakrishna Eradi, Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court were appointed Judges of Supreme Court. M. M. Ismail, Chief Juctice of Madras High Court was transferred to head the Kerala High Court and Mr. Ismail's position in the Madras High Court was filled by K. B. N. Singh. Rambriksh Mishra of the Allahabad High Court was at the same time elevated to the Supreme Court
January 20	Noted novelist, Harinarayan Chattopadhyay, died. He was 64 A renowned novelist, Mr. Chattopadhyay has a large number of books to his credit.
—	President of All India Hind Mazdoor Sabha, S. Venkatram died after a brief illness. He was 56. The socialist and trade union leader, Mr. Venkataram was a Member of the Karnataka Legistative Council and also a General Secretary of the State unit of Janata Party. He was imprisoned during emergency.
—	Six bandits, armed with sten guns and revolvers, raided the Maharajpur branch of the State Bank of India (Sahibabad) close to the Delhi-UP border and decamped with Rs 6.5 lakh.
21	Bishnu Ram Medhi, former Governor of Tamil Nadu and Chief Minister of Assam expired in Gauhati. He was 95.
—	Indian Oil Corporation signed an agreement with the National Refinery Limited and the Pakistan Refinery Limited of Karachi for the import of 100,000 tonnes of fuel oil.
—	Noted journalist, Janaki Jiban Ghosh, died. He was 78. He was a former associate editor of the Amrita Bazar Patrika.
—	Two Additional Judges of Madras High Court, Justice R. Senguttuvelen and Justice K. Shanmugham were sworn in as permanent judges.
22	Differences between India and the U.K. over protectionism could not be narrowed during the four-day meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee which concluded in New Delhi on a positive note regarding greater bilateral collaboration in various economic fields.
—	The Lok Dal suffered a setback when one of its senior leaders, Banarsi Das, resigned from its national committee as well as the post of treasurer. He will, however, continue to be a

primary member. His action came in the wake of the controversy over Chanderjit Yadav's removal from the Party and Charan Singh's attitude towards disciplinary matters.

January 22 The President presented the national awards for child welfare. The award was instituted by the Government last year. The award winners were Mrs. Manju Bhashini of Bala Mandir and W.B. Nowrungay of Balakashram.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi dedicated Rs. 445 crore giant Narmada Valley Fertilizer Project to the nation.

— Punjab, who won the Santosh trophy, the symbol of nations football supremacy, regained it after six years at Barbati Staduim (Cuttak) when they beat Railways by two goals to nil in the replayed final.

— Soviet Union's Deputy Prime Minister, Ivan Arkhipov, arrived in New Delhi on offical visit to India. He was received by India's Foreign Minister, Narasimha Rao. Later the sixth session of Indo-Soviet Joint Commission began discussion on concrete measures to follow up the agreement signed on December 10, 1980. On 23rd January, at the conclusion of the sixth session of Indo-Soviet Joint Commission, a protocol was signed which covered a number of projects and schemes of economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

— Tarkeshwari Sinha resigned from the general secretaryship of Congress (U) following the refusal of Party President Devaraj Urs to accept her suggestion for appointing a minority member on the Parliamentary Board. She told newsmen that she has no intention to quit the Party.

23 AASU and AAGSP announced their decision to resume the blockade on movement of plywood outside the North-Eastern region from January 27.

— Akbar Yarkhan, veteran freedom fighter, died in Bombay. He was 94.

— The Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, M.M. Ismail, has tendered his resignation to the President in protest against his transfer as Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court.

— Gulam Zafar Khan, a noted Sarangi player, died in New Delhi. He was 68.

— The Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah, named his son, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, M.P., as his successor as President of the ruling National Congress.

January 23 A one day "Marathwada bandh" call given by Bharatiya Janata Party evoked partial response. The bandh was in protest against Maharashtra Government's failure to check rising prices of essential commodities, state transport bus fare hike and the alleged partisan attitude of the Government.

24 The Pakistani nobel laureate, Prof. Abdus Salam, was conferred honorary degree of Doctor of Science in the capacity-packed Kennedy hall auditorium in Aligarh.

— The Union Cabinet set its seal of approval on the draft of the sixth Five-Year Plan finalised by the Planning Commission yesterday.

25 Arjuna awards for the year 1979-80 have been announced for 11 sportsmen. They are :— Ramaswami Ganasekaran (athletics), Om Prakash (basketball), Bakhshish Singh (boxing), Sunil kumar Patra (bodybuilding), Kapil Dev (cricket), Prasun Banerjee (football), Vasudevan Baskaran (hockey), Rekha B. Mudphan (hockey women), Major R.K Manchanda (squash), Indu Puri (table tennis) and S.K. Mishra (volleyball).

— At a joint meeting of the executives of AASU and AAGSP in Gauhati, the Assam stir leaders decided upon a new phase of agitation with a call for a 24 hour non-cooperation by all Government and non-Government employees in the State, on February 6, 1981 followed by two-day 12-hour "mass fast" in front of the Raj Bhawan at Shillong by President and secretaries of eight constituent units of Gana Sangram Parishad on February 11 and 12. They also decided to extend its full support to farmers agitation in Maharashtra.

— Mexico's President Jose Lopez-Portillo arrived in NewDelhi on a State visit to India. Later he had talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and both reviewed the international economic situation and examined prospects of bilateral relations. At the banquet hosted by President Sanjiva Reddy, Mexican President affirmed that his Government believes limited wars, border skirmishes and even display of military power threatens the equilibrium and peace of world. On 29th January a joint communique was issued after talks between the visiting Mexican President and the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. President Jose Lopez-Portillo left New Delhi for Mexico after his six-day State visit.

— The National Federation of Blind called off their 25-day agitation following an agreement with the Government.

— Ravi Shankar, sitar maestro of international fame and Dr. Satish Dhawan, space scientist under whose guidance India successfully launched an earth satellite into orbit last year, have been awarded Padma Vibhushan. The highest national award, the Bharat Ratna, has not been awarded to anyone. Nine persons have been awarded Padma Bhushan. They are : Amrit Lal Nagar (Hindi writer), Mrs. A. B. Wadia (social worker), A.P.J. Abdulkalam (research development enginer), Gopinath Mohanty (novelist), Dr. M. K. Vainu Bappu (optical astronomer), Mrs. Mekhala Jha (social worker), Mrinal Sen (film director and playwright), P. K. Mukherjee (former teacher and librarian) and Prafulla Desai (cancer specialist). Twenty eight persons have been awarded Padma Shri.

January 25 S. P. Pandhi, veteran journalist and editor of Himachal Times, died. He was 58.

— The three-day All India Democratic Socialist Convention gave birth to a political organisation - Democratic Socialist Front - which its Chairman H. N. Bahuguna described as "nucleus" to "weave the thoughts and also to carry on the struggle to bring about a socio-economic transformation of society".

— Tribhuvan Nath of Soviet Land, USSR Embassy, died in New Delhi. He was 58. A writer and journalist, he was also actively associated with the freedom moment and was sent to jail in the Quit India Movement in 1942.

26 Arunachal Pradesh came on the national aviation map following the introduction of the third level airline- Vayudoot - at Tezu headquarters of the Lohit district.

— A new train named "Terai Express" was introduced between Mathura and Gorakhpur.

27 Five persons, including two women, were killed and 34 injured, four of them seriously, in a collision between a bus carrying pilgrims and a truck near Bagru village on the Ajmer road, 25 km from Jaipur.

— Koti Reddy, a veteran freedom fighter and a Minister in the erstwhile Madras State, died. He was 94.

27 The Noted film maker Hrishikesh Mukherjee, was appointed next Chairman of the board of film censors.

Sarju Prasad, former Chief Justice of Rajasthan and Assam High Court, died. He was a practising lawyer in the Supreme Court.

— The second cricket test between India and Australia at the Adelaide Oval ended in a draw.

January 27 Tarachand Dalmia, a well known social worker, died. He was 67.

— The veteran Dogri poet of Jammu, Krishan Sumelpuri, died. He was 84. Mr. Sumelpuri was honoured by the Sahitya Academy for his book of poems "Mere Geet".

— The Vice Chancellor of the Vikram University, Ujjain, P. M. Kawthekar, resigned.

28 In the wake of violent clashes between the caste Hindus and Scheduled Caste people in some localities of Ahmedabad on the issue of reservation of seats for backward communities in post graduate courses, Gujarat Government announced the closure of all the four medical colleges in the State for six months.

— Indian Airlines announced that with effect from 29th January the fuel surcharge on all domestic fares of Rs. 350 and above will be increased by 5 percent.

— Justice Amarendra Nath Sen, former Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court, was sworn in as Judge of the Supreme Court.

— Lok Dal Central Parliamentary Board decided to expel from the Party Chandrajit Yadav, Banarsi Das, former U. P. Chief Minister and Ahmed Hashmi, M.P. It said that those who do not believe in the principles, policies and programmes of the Lok Dal and who do not wish to observe internal discipline should gracefully leave the Party without creating unnecessary bitterness.

— S. Sahay, editor of the Statesman, was elected Chairman of the Editors Guild of India.

— Shyam Bhagia, noted Sindhi writer, died. He was 48. A freedom fighter, Mr. Bhagia, had taken part in the Goa struggle.

— Union Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, left for United Kingdom to explore the possiblity of technical cooperation for the public sector project for small car and commercial vehicles.

29 H. K. Bhattacharya, Deputy Inspector General of Assam Police, was arrested under the National Security Act. Mr. Bhattacharya was understood to have been suspected of helping the leaders of Assam agitation.

January 30 Dr Jaran Singh, Head of the Department of Guru Granth Sahib Studies of Punjabi University, died. He was 59.

— Finanace Ministers from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) approved an interest free loan of 30 million dollar to India for the second Bombay High Project.

— The Indian Ambassador to Senegal, Kanwar Gajendra Singh, has been appointed Ambassador to Romania in succession to Asok Kumar Ray. Dharam Paul Pasricha, presently first Secretary in Islambad, has been appointed Ambassador to Yemen Arab Republic in succession to Bansi Dhar Goswami.

— V.Balakrishna Eradi, till now Chief Justice of Kerala High Court, and Rambriksh Mishra, Judge of the Allahabad High Court, were sworn in as Judges of the Supreme Court.

— Syed Modi defeated nine time winner Prakash Padukone in the men's singles final of the national badminton championship held in Vijayawada. The second seeded Modi of Railways out classed Prakash at straight games at 15-10, 15-9.

31 The high power panel set up by the Government under the chairmanship of Dr. Gopal Singh, in its preliminary report recommended that urgent steps be taken to ensure greater representation of the minorities in Central services and educational institutions which should bear some relation to their population.

— India and Egypt will explore the possibility of further cooperation in atomic energy under protocol signed in New Delhi by the Energy Mininsters of the two countries.

— India and Soviet Union signed a protocol for setting up a plant to construct prefabricated structures of canal and canal lining, application of directional blasting system in construction of high dams and research on acquatic weed control.

— Parbhindar Singh has taken over as General Manager of Northen Railways following the retirement of R.K. Natesan.

— President Sanjiva Reddy promulgated an Ordinance empowering the Government to streamline the wage structure of the Life Insurance Corporation and to revise service conditions of its employees and agents with retrospective effect from June 20, 1979 not withstanding any judgement, decree or order of any court or any other law.

February 1 The Chief of the Army Staff, General O. P. Malhotra, left on a week long tour of Czechoslovakia.

— The Government has issued an Ordinance to amend the Life Insurance Corporation Act of 1956. The Ordinance, according to a Finance Ministry press note, will enable the Government to streamline the wage structure of the LIC, control the expenses of the management and safeguard the interests of the policy holders whose premium money the LIC holds as trustee.

— President Sanjiva Reddy, inaugurating the 19th Congress of the "International Association for Hydraulic Research" in New Delhi, called for evolving a cheaper technology for tapping the irrigation potential and ensuring optimum utilisation of water resources in the country.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi inaugurated the centenary celebrations of St. Stephens College (Delhi).

2 Centenary celebrations of the *Tribune* were held at Chandigarh.

— Chandrajit Yadav, Member of Parliament, who had been expelled from the Lok Dal, formed a new Party the "Loktantric (Democratic) Lok Dal" and named himself as its national convener.

— Class III and IV employees of the Life Insurance Corporation at several places all over the country held rallies against the Ordinance promulgated by Government empowering the Government to streamline their wage structure which they described as a calculated aggression on their hard earned rights in the matter of bonus, pay scales and service conditions.

— Nigam Parkash, Deputy Chief of the UN Division in the Ministry of External Affairs, was appointed India's Charge d'Affairs in Kampuchea.

3 Bulandshahr District Judge P.N. Roy, comprising of one man Commission of inquiry set up to investigate the Baghpat incident, in his report has confirmed that the police had gunned down three men and Maya Tyagi, a young married woman was stripped by the police. She was marched naked through the street to the police station and held sub inspector Narendra Kumar Singh, who had since been murdered, responsible for the crime.

— Lodhu Ram, a 100 year old freedom fighter, died.

February 3	Smt Madhuri Shah, Vice Chancellor of SNDT University, was appointed Chairman of the University Grants Commission succeeding Prof. Satish Chandra who retired on January 14.
—	The Supreme Court ordered status quo "as of today" in the controversial transfers of two Chief Justices, Justice M.M. Ismail of the Madras High Court to the Kerala High Court and Justice K.B.N. Singh of the Patna High Court to the Madras High Court. The order, however, clarified that if Justice Ismail wants to take charge as Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court, as ordered by the President, he is free to do so. The Union Government has been asked to explain its position by February 7 and the petitioner, who are advocates of Madras, Delhi and Patna, may file their views by February 10.
—	Twelve persons were killed, nine of them on the spot and three in hospital, when a Bihar State Transport Corporation bus met with an accident on the Jamshedpur Buxar road.
4	Government framed rules regulating bonus and dearness allowance of Life Insurance Corporation employees following the recent Presidential Ordinance empowering Government to streamline the wage structure of its employees.
—	Union Cabinet approved all the recommendations of a cadre review committee to increase promotional opportunities in the Border Security Force.
—	India and the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea (N. Korea) signed a protocal for long term cooperation in the fields of agricultural research, education and production techniques in irrigation and water resources development.
—	Twenty persons were killed on the spot and 35 others injured in a major road accident, involving a lorry at Lkkavaram, about 85 kms from Bhadrachalam (AP).
6	Delhi High Court upheld the supersession of the Delhi Municpal Corporation by the Central Government on April 11, 1980.
—	In Andhra Pradesh, Governor K. C. Abraham, accepted the resignation of all the 60 Ministers of the Anjiah Ministry who had submitted their resignations to the Chief Minister after learning that the Congress (I) central leadership favours a modest sized Ministry. Chief Minister alone continued in office.

February 6 S. A. Sastri, veteran journalist, commentator and trade unionist, died. He was 81.

7 More than 100 people, mostly women and children, were burnt alive at Banglore when a flaming cirucs tent collapsed and came down on them near the city railway station.

8 According to negotiations between the representatives of the Kuwaiti Fund on the one hand and the Union Government, the U P. Government and U.P. State Electricity Board on the other, U. P. Government will receive Rs. 75 crores as loan assistance from the Kuwait Government for the Anpara "A" thermal project being constructed in Mirzapur district.

— Congress (I) nominees, Rafuddin Sheikh and Jethabhai Parmar were re-elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively of the newly elected general board of the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation.

— Dacoits looted the Kolabira Gramya Bank (Sambalpur) and decamped with about Rs 40 lakh in cash.

— Four harijans, including a woman, were killed in a clash between two groups in Malagaon village in the Sasaram police station area.

— Government raised the price of coal by Rs. 20 a tonne to help Coal India and other units to reduce the incidence of losses anticipated in the fisal year 1981-82. Coal India has been losing about Rs. 100 crores a year, reported the Ministry sources.

— Veteran freedom fighter, Net Singh Choudhary, died at his native village in Jhunjhunu district. He was 90. Mr. Choudhary played an important role in organising the farmers movement in Rajasthan during the British Raj and was actively involved in the swadeshi movement.

9 An agreement was signed between the Indian Oil Corporation and Corpoven SA, a Venezuelan state undertaking according to which India will get half a million tonne of crude from Venezuela during this year.

— Eleven persons were killed when glaciers rolled on them at two places in Rajauri district last weekened, according to official sources.

— India signed with the Soviet Union a protocol for strengthening a joint text book programme. The protocol seeks to widen the scope of publication under this programme so as to include books at vocational level in the fields of para-medicine, continuing education, pedagogy and physical education. The programme has so far covered university and research level.

February 9 M. C. Chagla, former Union Minister and Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, died at the age of 81 following a heart attack.

— Sixteen Ministers from T. Anjiaha's 60 member Cabinet were dropped and in the new Ministry, 44 Ministers consisting of 29 Cabinet rank and 15 Ministers of State were sworn-in by Governor K. C. Abraham at Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad.

— Strength of Ministry in Rajasthan was raised when two Ministers of State and one Deputy Minister were sworn-in at Raj Bhavan in Jaipur.

10 Mukur Kanti Krishna, presently Ambassador to Zaire, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Chile in succession to Barun Kumar Basu.

— Railway Minister, Kedar Pandey, presented in Parliament the railway budget for 1981-82. The budget proposals will cost 10 to 15 percent more from April 1 in rail travel in all classes and freight. Those travelling in the second class ordinary (not mail or express) upto a distance of 150 kms. were, however, spared from the surcharge of 10 to 15 percent.

— Ramesh Mehta, a veteran freedom fighter, who was awarded the Tamra Patra on the occasion of the silver jubilee year of Independence by the Prime Minister, died. He was 73.

11 At least 19 passengers were killed and 51 injured, 30 of them seriously, in a series of accidents involving two fast trains, Trivandrum Mail bound for Madras and the Yereaud Express proceeding to Salem and a goods train near Vaniyambadi about 200 km from Madras.

— Buddhist scholar Upendra Maharathi, a noted artist and Member of Bihar Legislative Council, died of heart attack at the age of 70.

— India won the third cricket test at Melbourne cricket ground, which was also the scene of India's first-ever Test victory on Australian ground.

February 11	Rabindra Dharmaraj, the talented film maker, whose first feature film "Chakra" drew critical attention and praise at the recently concluded International Film Festival in New Delhi, died.
—	Sangeet Natak Akademi awards were announced for 17 outstanding artists from different parts of the country. They were :—Fida Bai Markam, Dina Pathak, Mrs. Leishanthem Devi, Vishnu Govind Jog, Rajehshwar Saikia, Nivrittibua Sarnaik, Shreekhazi S. Govindarajan, K. P. Sivanandam, Balappa Veerabhadrappa Hukkeri, R. K. Priyagopal Sana, Sheikh Gulab, Rudraprasad Sen Gupta, Narasinga Rao Parwathavadi, M.G. Swaminathan, Chimanlal Amtharam Nayak, Ragunath Satapathy and K.L. Krishan Kutty Pulavar.
12	Chandra Shekhar was declared elected unopposed as President of the Janata Party for another term following the withdrawal from the contest by his only rival Dr. Subramaniam Swamy
—	Dr. V A. Seyid Muhammed, India's High Commissioner in London, took delivery of the first three Jaguar aircrafts built according to Indian specifications at the British Aerospace factory at Warton (Lancashire) according to a British Information Service (BTS) release in New Delhi.
—	Two powerful bomb blasts occurred simultaneously around midnight, believed to be clear cases of sabotage, damaged the transmitters of All India Radio at Dibrugarh in Upper Assam and at Gauhati affecting temporarily the programmes beamed from these two stations.
13	The Congress (U) in Andhra Pradesh received a major setback with the resignation of Vengal Rao from Presidentship of the APCC (U).
—	Mrs. Madhuri R. Shah took over as Chairman of the University Grants Commission. Mrs. Shah is the first woman to preside over the Commission. She is the sixth Chairman of the UGC.
—	The noted Veena Vidwan, Sishtu Srirama Sastri, 72, died.
—	A powerful bomb blast, third within 36 hours, blew off at Puranigudam in Nowgong district the 40 cm diametre Oil India pipeline causing spillover of the crude damaging the 1,100 km pipline from upper Assam oil fields to Gauhati and Barauni refineries.
—	Two day meeting of the National Development Council opened in New Delhi. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, in her

opening remarks, asked the States not to falter in raising the promised resources for the sixth plan which she described as a charter to redefine the course of our nation's progress.

February 14 A 60 square centimetre Crater was formed following a bomb explosion on the railway track in North-East Frontier Railway at Bamu nimaiden, 3 km from Gauhati. This was the fourth bomb to explode during the last three days.

— Seeking to avenge the death of her lover, dacoit queen Phoolan Devi led her gang to the worst massacre in UP villages in recent time, killing 22 men in Behmai village in the Sikandara police circle of Kanpur. Phoolan and her gang suspected that the Thakurs of Behmai village were covering the movements of dacoit Sriram Singh whom the Phoolen gang held responsible for the death of the woman bandit's paramour, Vikram Mallah. Sriram Singh is said to be a Thakur.

— The Sixth Five Year Plan, providing for a total investment of Rs. 1,72,210 crores including Rs. 97,500 crores in the public sector and covering the period 1980-85 was approved by the National Development Council.

15 Eight persons died and about a dozen fell seriously ill after reportedly consuming spurious liquor in an unauthorised jhuggi jhopri colony in Gautam Nagar (New Delhi).

16 At least 20 persons were killed and 15 others injured when the Kanpur-Barauni Passenger rammed into the Oudh-Tirhut Mail from the rear near Daronda railway station on the Chapra-Siwan section of the North-Eastern railways.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, addressing the Congress (I) Kisan Rally at Boat Club, New Delhi, stressed the need for unity to enable the country to hold its head high and to keep the flag flying. The development of Kisans, the industry and the country's defence are inseparably inter-linked, she said,

17 Dr. Klaus Meyer, Director General for the development of Economic Community, disclosed at a news conference in New Delhi that the European Economic Community will extend project and food aid of over 320 million dollars to India during 1981-82.

— Fourteen persons were killed on the spot and four injured when a lorry carrying two giant granite stones fell on its side crushing them underneath near Delhi.

February 17 India and USSR signed a protocol envisaging a trade turnover of Rs, 2,200 crores for 1981. This represents an increase of Rs. 300 crores over the 1980 turnover.

18 E. Billimaria, well-known actor of the 1940's silent and talkie film era, died. He was in his 70's.

— The strength of Rajasthan Ministry, led by Jagannath Pahadia, was raised to 21 when nine Ministers, four of Cabinet rank and five of State, were sworn-in.

19 The Indo-Yugoslav joint committee meeting concluded at New Delhi with the signing of a protocol which sets out the objects the two countries aim to achieve in the fields of industrial cooperation, trade, science and technology and banking. An Indo-Yugoslav programme of co operation for 1981 and 1982 in the fields of science and technology was also signed.

— Rail travel in all classes and freight will cost 10 to 15 percent more from April 1, as proposed in the railway budget for 1981-82 presented to Parliament. The railways will get additional revenue of Rs. 356.26 crores from the record hike in passenger tariff and freight rates in the new financial year.

— T. Anjiah,who had taken over as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, resigned his seat in the Rajya Sabha.

— The veteran labour leader and freedom fighter, Kedar Das, died following brain haemorrhage.

20 At the conclusion of the fourth session of the Indo-GDR joint commission on economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation at New Delhi, Indian Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charnjit Chanana and Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic, Dr. Gerhard Wiess, signed a protocol providing for an increase in the exchange of goods and technologies on the basis of the principle of a mutual most-favoured nation treatment.

— A big Congress (U) rally was held in New Delhi against rising prices and deteriorating law and order situation. The rally was addressed by Jagajivan Ram and Devaraj Urs.

— Five persons, including two army captains, were killed when a Pusphak aircraft and an Indian Air Force helicopter collided in mid air and crashed in the aerodrome in Patiala. The other three dead were a flying instructor, a trainee pilot and woman engaged in cutting grass.

February 20 A former Janata Party MLA from Uttar Pradesh, Cheda Singh Chauhan, was shot dead by some unknown person near Lucknow.

— Prince Claus of the Netherlands arrived in New Delhi on a 13 day visit.

— Vazhe Kada Kunju Nair, eminent exponent of Kathakali and a former principal of Kerala Kalama Dalam, died. He was 71.

21 India and Sweden signed at New Delhi a two year project agreement for Swedish support to forestry development in India. Under the agreement Sweden will provide about Rs. 25 lakh in its currency for the project, which will lay particular emphasis on social forestry, training in logging and soil conservation.

— Kailash Nath Katju, Deputy Managing Director, Indian Airlines, was appointed Chairman, Vayudoot, the third airline formed recently to operate feeder services.

— The one man panel headed by former Reserve Bank Governor, K.R. Puri, had come to the conclusion that the gold auctions during the Janata rule were concerned neither in public interest nor on sound economic considerations. In its 200 page report submitted to the Government recently, the panel is understood to have said that these were meant only to benefit the rich.

22 Assam Government extended the operation of the Assam Special Powers (Press) Act, 1960, for another two months.

— Dr. Subramaniam Swamy was dropped as the General Secretary of Janata Party by the Party President, Chandra Shekhar. He also dropped another General Secretary, Surendra Mohan. They have however been retained as members of the reconstituted national executive.

23 Congress (I) Ministry led by Anwara Taimur was expanded to 16 with the induction of four Ministers of Cabinet rank and two Ministers of State.

— J C. Himkar, noted journalist of Calcutta and ex-Chief Editor "Jagriti", died. He was 76.

— Onkar Nath Sheopuri, at present Ambassador to Mozambique, was appointed Ambassador to Morocco succeeding Uday Chand Soni.

February 23 A warm and affectionate welcome was accorded to President Daniel T. Arap Moi of Kenya, who arrived on a six day visit to India, the first ever by any Kenyan head of State.

— West Zone won the covetted Duleep Trophy on the strength of their 101 run first innings lead over hosts East Zone as the four day final of the competition ended in a tame draw at the Eden Gardens (Calcutta).

24 At least nine persons belonging to a marriage party including a 10 year old girl were killed on the spot when the van in which they were travelling collided with a truck near Limdi in Surendra Nagar district (Baroda).

— Eight members of Phoolan Devi dacoit gang were shot dead in an encounter with a joint police party from Kanpur and Jalaun at Behta village in the Hata area.

— Eight persons including the driver and conductor of a U.P. Roadways bus were killed when the vehicle plunged into a ravine on Jalai Road, about 100 km from Almora.

— Freedom fighter, Budhan Rai Verma, died in Patna. He was 75.

— Hari Moreshwar Joshi, noted Marathi author, died in Pune. He was 81.

— The Indo-Kenyan relations entered a new phase with the signing of the first ever bilateral agreements in New Delhi during the visit of the Kenyan President Daniel T. Arap Moi. The agreements covering the fields of culture, education, technical and economic cooperation and trade were signed at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

— Mrinal Sen's "Akaler Sandhane" (anatomy of a femine) was awarded the Silver Bear at the Berlin film festival.

— Ten persons were shot dead and three sustained serious injuries when to gang of dacoits, led by Amarsingh and Durbin Singh, raided a house in Jamai village under Sirsaganj police circle (Mainpuri).

25 Eight persons were killed and 15 hurt when a Burdwan-bound local train crashed into a lorry at a level crossing between Pandua and Simlagarh stations on the Eastern Railways Baodet Burdwan section.

— Imtiaz Ali Khan Arshi, well known authority on Mirza Ghalib and litteraeur, died in Rampur. He was 76.

February 25	Jwala Prasad Kureel, former Janata Party MP and freedom fighter, died at Kanpur. He was 76.
—	New Zealand won the first cricket test match against India by 62 runs at the Basin Reserve Ground (Wellington).
—	Parliament approved the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Bill, 1980, with an assurance by Bhisma Narain Singh, Minister for Works and Housing, that the Government would take all necessary steps for the abatement of air pollution.
—	Speaker Bal Ram Jakhar nominated H.K.L. Bhagat and Edurardo Faleio as members of the Press Council of India. They replaced Chandulal Chandrakar and Braja Mohan Mohanty who have resigned from the Council of Ministers.
—	Tamil film actress Radha (22) was found dead in a hotel room in Salem.
—	Twelve persons were killed and about 30 injured when a bus of the U P State Road Transport Corporation collided with a motos truck near Charma, about 42 km from Pithoragarh.
26	Amrita Ahluwalia crowned herself the national lawn tennis champion for the third year. She gave ample evidence of her supremacy while outplaying Anu Peshwaria, 6—1, 6—4.
—	B.K. Nehru was sworn in as Governor of Jammu and Kashmir at Raj Bhavan in Jammu.
—	Italian Foreign Minister, Emilio Colombo, arrived in New Delhi on a four day visit to India. Later he exchanged views with Foreign Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, on international issues and bilateral matters.
—	Noted historian and litterateur of Assam, Benudhar Sarma, died. He was 87.
—	Six persons were killed and many injured in police firing and violence that rocked Gujarut on the "Gujarat bandh" day, the call for which was given by the anti-reservation action committee in support of the medicos strike. The bandh was almost total is most parts of the State except Surat.
—	The US dollar has become costlier by 20 paise following the revision by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) of the rates for buying and selling dollar currency notes by banks and money changers from the public and tourists.

February 27	The Chairman of the Minorities Commission, Justice M.A. Ansari, whose three year term was to expire in July, has been removed from the post by the Home Ministry without prior information. He is to be succeeded by the Chief Justice H.Beg.
—	Dr. Bhupal Bose, a veteran freedom fighter and former Chairman of West Bengal unit of the then Samyukta Socialist Party, died at Calcutta. He was 76.
—	India and Italy signed a technical cooperation agreement which provides for the services of the Italian experts, training facilities and supply of technical equipment from time to time.
—	The Manipur Ministry led by Rishang Keishing, resigned without facing the no trust motion, which was to be taken up in the Assembly. On 28th Februrary Manipur was placed under President's rule.
28	Finance Minister, R. Venkataraman, while presenting the annual budget for 1981-82 in the Parliament, proposed a substantial income tax relief for the middle income group, a reduction in the surcharge on corporate income tax and a moderate levies which after accounting for the relief will bring Rs. 271 crore to reduce the net deficit to Rs. 1,539 crores.
—	Manipur has been brought under President's rule and the Sate Assembly placed under suspended animation.
—	Sixteen persons were killed and 11 injured, eight seriously, when a bus fell into a khud near Bhuti village, about a 100 km from Simla.
March 1	Anthony D'Souza, freedom fighter and former Minister of Goa, Daman and Diu in Bandodkar Cabinet, died of jaundice in Bombay. He was 54.
—	Strength of Cabinet in Assam was increased to 16 by the induction of one more Minister into the Anwara Taimur Ministry.
—	Two persons were killed and 10 injured, three of them seriously, when the 7 Up Tinsukia Mail collided with a shunting engine at Bordubi railway station about 13 km from Tinsukia.
2	India won cricket test against New Zealand by an innings and 14 runs. The match was played in Dunedin (New Zealand).

March 2 Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of the rupee by 2.50 percent in relation to pound sterling with immediate effect.

3 N.P. Seshdari Deekshithar, a well known vedic scholar and priest, died. He was 64.

— Property worth about Rs. 2 crores was damaged in a devastating fire which broke out in the Tokobari area, the main business centre of Gauhati.

— Under a contract signed in New Delhi, Bulgaria will, for the first time, supply diesel and other petroleum products to India. One lakh tonnes of high speed diesel was expected to be supplied in 1981.

4 The Chairman of the National Police Commission, Dharam Vira, presented the sixth report of the Commission to the Home Minister, Zail Singh. The report deals with communal riots, urban property, police behaviour, training of IPS officers, police and students.

— Dr. M. V. George, Member of Kerala Planning Board, was appointed member of Agricultural Prices Commission.

— Former Chief Justice of Supreme Court M.H. Beg took over as Chairman of Minorities Commission.

— The noted surgeon, Dr. Arthur Desa, died. He was 70. Recipient of several international awards and honours, Dr. Desa was a former President of the Association of Surgeons of India and Editor of the India Journal of Surgery. He was elected honorary member of the British Association of Paediatric Surgeons in 1976 and was given the honoray membership of of the International College of Surgeons in 1979.

— One trainee pilot of the Indian Air Force was killed when a "Kiran" aircraft crashlanded in Chityal village in Medak district.

— Union Government set up a high power commission on reform of economic administration headed by L.K. Jha. It will go into the question of tax administration, rationalisation and improvement and use of non-tax devices for raising the level of savings.

— West German President K. Carstens and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Dr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, arrived in India on a State visit. They had separate discussions with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and External Affairs

Minister, P. V. Narasimha Rao, on the current international development with particular reference to tensions in Asia and recent setback in Europe.

March 5 India and West Germany signed two agreements, one providing for the supply of an Indian Ocean research vessel valued at Rs. 20 crores and second for setting up of an institute of tool room training at Lucknow.

— Two railway personnel, the guard and a sainik of the Railway Protection Force of a goods train, were killed when an oil tank special rammed into the rear of a stationary goods train at Diva, 40 km from Bombay.

— Winding up the railway debate in the two Houses of Parliament, Railway Minister, Kedar Pandey, announced a series of concessions. The proposed surcharge on second class ordinary fare was reduced from ten to five percent and exmption limit for surcharge in second class ordinary travel was raised from 150 to 200 km. The supplementary charge on superfast trains was brought down from Rs. 3 to Rs. 2.

8 Dr. W.V. Malik, Head of the Chemistry Department of the University of Roorkee, was appointed new Vice Chancellor of Kashmir University. He was appointed Vice Chancellor for a three year term.

— The External Affairs Minister, P. V. Narasimha Rao, left for Geneva to attend the meeting of the four member non-aligned ministerial group which will attempt to bring about a ceasefire in the six month old Iran-Iraq war.

— Raj Narain announced at a press conference that the National Executive of Janata (S) has decided that Janata (S) will henceforth be known as the Socialist Party. He said the new party would follow the ideology of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia and emerge as a strong and militant Opposition Party.

— Twelve persons, including a newly wed couple and three children, were drowned and three reported missing when a boat carrying a 32 member marriage party capsized in the Cauvery near Cholasiramani village, about 80 km from Salem.

9 Eighteen dacoits were killed, 12 in Agra and 5 in Allahabad in encounters with the police during the past 48 hours.

— Govindbhai Shinoe, a freedom fighter and prominent Harijan worker of Ahmedabad, died in a road mishap.

March 9	Lok Sabha passed the LIC (amendment) Bill seeking to further amend the Life Insurance Corporation Act of 1956 for purpose of streamlining the wage structure of some sections of Corporation's employees. The Opposition members put up a stiff fight against the legislation pressing for division on each clause right till the end.
—	Pushpita Ranjan Mukherjee, a retired Judge of the All India Labour Appellate Tribunal, died. He was 86. Mr. Mukherjee, a schoar in Vaishnava literature, was connected with a number of socio-cultural and religious organisations.
10	V.K. Vasudeva Panicker was appointed Joint Secretary of the AICC (I). Till recently he was General Secretary and acting President of the Youth Congress (I).
11	Acchar Singh Cheena, founder member of the Gadobar Party and a former legislator, died. He was 82.
—	Chanchal Singh, MLA from Uttar Pradesh, died. of brain haemorrhage. He was 65.
—	Gulam Nabi Azad, M.P. and President of Youth Congress (I), has dissolved the Assam, Orissa and Rajasthan State Youth Congress (I) Committees.
—	The K.R. Puri Committee report was tabled in the Parliament. In a strong indictment of the Janata Government's gold auctions, the Committee has observed that the limited stocks of Gold were frittered away while these could have been availed of in dire necessity. The report said that had the 13 tonnes of gold not been sold at Rs. 86.5 crores in 1978, it would have been worth 220 crores in December 1980. The panel had also accused former Prime Minister Morarji Desai and Formar Finance Minister, H.M. Patel, for not fully appraising the Cabinet before deciding on the auctions.
—	A token strike by employees of Public Sector undertakings completely paralysed the working of banks, insurance companies and many other organizations throughout the country. The strike was called by leading central trade unions (except the INTUC) to express solidarity and support with the agitating workers of Public Sector units in Bangalore and to protest against the Government Bill to modify the wages of LIC and general insurance employees.
—	The 77 day old strike of the Bangalore based Public Sector undertakings, involving 1,25,000 workers was withdrawn. The decision was announced by leaders of the joint action

front at a general body meeting of employees after repeated consultations with the Chief Minister, R. Gundu Rao, who assured them that the doors of negotiations would be reopened by the management of Hindustan Aeronautics, Hindustan Machine Tools, Bharat Electronics, Bharat Earthmovers and Indian Telephone Industries.

March 12 Minister of State for Science and Technology, C.P.N. Singh, announced in the Lok Sabha that the Government has decided to constitute a Science Advisory Committee (SACC) with immediate effect with Dr. M.S.Swaminathan, member Planning Commission, as its Chairman. The Committee will advice on the formulation of sceince and technology policy of the Government and on the manner of its implementation.

— Surendra Nihal Singh has been appointed Editor-in-Chief of "The Indian Express". He will take over on April 1. He will succeed S. Mulgaokar, who is retiring on account of indifferent health.

— A well known Hindi comedian, Maruti, died of brain haemorrhage. He was 54.

13 B.N. Sastri, noted biochemist, died in Mysore. He was 76.

— Dr. Halfdan Mahler, Director General of the World Health Organisation, has announced the appointment of Dr. Balu Sankaran, formerly Director-General of Health Services, India, as Director of WHO's programmes of traditional medicine and essential surgery.

— Dreaded dacoit leader Pan Singh shot dead five members of the Gujjar community at Pawa village in Gwalior district in a cold blooded revenge.

— The Deputy Chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council, Ved Prakash, died. he was 45.

— Lok Sabha passed the Appropriation (vote on account) Bill for withdrawal from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India about Rs. 15,578,851 crores for the services of a part of the financial year, 1981-82.

— Mrs. Nirmalkumari Mahalanobis, wife of the late statistician, P.C. Mahalanobis, died. She was 81. A prolific writer, Mrs. Mahalanobis vividly narated the last days of Rabindranath Tagore in her book "Baishe Sravan"-22nd Sravan.

March 13	The pound sterling became costlier by 15 paise following the devaluation of the rupee by 0.82 percent by the Reserve Bank. It has fixed the middle rate of Rs. 18.25 per pound.
14	Maulana Habibur Rehman Qadri, a popular religious leader of the Muslims, died. He was 95.
—	President Sanjiva Reddy opened the Governors two day conference at New Delhi with a fervent appeal to all Political Parties to come together in a spirit of conciliation and cooperation to deal with the problem of poverty as a national issue.
15	Punjab regained the glittering Rangaswamy Cup by defeating holders Indian Railways by one goal to nil in the final of the 45th National Hockey Championship at the Guru Gobind Singh Statium in Jullundur.
—	Twenty persons, mostly women, were feared drowned in a boat disaster in Sileru reservoir near Chitrakinda, 96 km from Jeypore (Orissa).
16	C. B. I. arrested four more persons in connection with the Petroleum Ministry espionage case involving leakage of classified documents relating to the setting up of Thal Viaishet and Hazira ammonia plants. Those arrested so far included three Central Government officials including K L. Arora, Personal Assistant to Director (Fertilizers) the first to be arrested on March 8, and two senior executives of private firms who allegedly obtained the secret information. Those arrested today were A.S. Ahluwalia, Superintendent in the Fertilizer Department of the Ministry, Mahavir Soni, an official of the Commerce Ministry and I C Pai and Jawand Singh belonging to private firms.
—	Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, T. Anjiah,was elected unopposed to the State Assembly from Ramayanpet Constituency in Medak district. All the other 12 candidates withdrew their nominations.
—	Dr. G. Sambasivan, Director of Malaria Programme at the World Health Organisation (WHO), died of heart attack at Geneva.
—	Indian and Japanese officials signed agreements for a Japanese grant to India totalling Rs 25 crores for hydroelectric projects and for debt relief.

March 16	Mohammed Aqil, a popular Delhi bootballer, died in a tragic road accident. Aqil represented the senior division league club Indian Nation regularly since 1974. He was also a member of Delhi University and Delhi State teams in 1966-67.
—	Mukt Behari Lal, former Rajya Sabha member, died. He was 80.
—	Parasuram, a member of the CPI national council, died of heart attack. He was 68.
—	Under an agreement signed in Vienna, India will receive an interest free loan of $ 30 million from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development.
17	Guinean President Sekou Toure arrived in New Delhi on a four day official visit.
—	President Sanjiva Reddy gave his assent to the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Bill passed by both the Houses of Parliament.
18	CBI arrested Nanak Chand Sheth, the son of a former Defence Production Secretary, who is a senior executive of a private industrial consultancy bureau, in connection with the Petroleum Ministry espionage case involving leakage of classifed documents about setting up two ammonia plants in Thal Vaishet and Hajira in Maharashtra and Gujarat respectively.
—	Eleven persons died and 53 were injured when a truck carrying them fell into a ditch at a point between Mubarakpur and Una, about 260 km from Simla.
—	The Government announced the procurement price of wheat at Rs. 130 a quintal, which is Rs. 3 more than the price recommended by the Agircultural Pirces Commission. The procurement price of wheat last year was Rs. 117 a quintal.
—	Kuldip Nayar resigned from the Indian Express. He was Editor of the Express News Service.
—	New Zealand won the three match cricket test series against India 1-0 when the third and final match ended in a draw in Auckland (New Zealand).

March 19 Daroga Prasad Rai, 59, former Chief Minister, of Bihar and one of the senior most members of Bihar Assembly, died in Patna.

— Lok Sabha passed the Special Bearer Bonds Bill. The Bill was an attempt to tackle the problems of black money.

— P. Harihara Sharma, a former General Manager of the Northern Railways, died in Madras.

— Vidya Charan Shukla, Union Civil Supplies Minister, resigned from the Union Cabinet. His resignation was accepted by the President. The charge of Ministry of Civil Supplies was temporarily given to the Agriculutre Minister, Rao Birendra Singh.

— Thirty two persons, mostly milkmen and labourers, were drowned in the Rihand dam reservoir, when a boat capsized between Shakti Nagar and Birpur in Mirzapur district, 225 km from Varanasi.

— The World Bank group approved two major soft credits to India totalling $ 454 million (approximately Rs 363 crores) for the expansion of telecommunications as well as for a medium irrigation project in Madhya Pradesh.

20 Congress (I) candidates, T Chandrasekhera Reddy, K.V.R.S. Balasubbrao and M. R. Apparao, were declared elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Andhra Pradesh Assembly.

— Elections to the Delhi Metropolitan Council which was dissolved on March 21, 1980 were postponed by another six months according to Presidential notification. This was the second extention of time, first being from September 21. On 24th March, barring a few independents and the AIADMK, the whole Opposition Parties in Rajya Sabha staged a walk out in protest against the continuation of President's rule in the Union Territory of Delhi and not holding the Metropolitan Council elections which was superseded a year ago.

— Lt. Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao, General Officer Commanding in Chief, Western Command, was appointed as the next Chief of the Army Staff with effect from June, succeeding General O.P. Malhotra who retires on May 31, this year.

— Professor A.S. Paintal, Director of the Vallabhai Patel Chest Institute, has been elected a fellow of the Royal Society of London.

March 21	Eight persons died and 12 were injured in a fire that broke out in a cracker manufacturing unit near Ottapalam, 40 km from Palght in North Kerala.
—	J. Sutherland, former news editor of the "Statesman", died. He was 68.
—	Shujjaat Ashraf, former Delhi State football player, died of cancer in Bangok. His body was brought to Delhi where it was buried.
—	A double storey plastic factory in Naraina (Delhi) was completely gutted in a fire that broke out in the early hours of the morning.
23	Bombay regained the coveted Ranji Trophy dethroning holders Delhi by an innings and 46 runs with more than a day to spare.
—	A commemorative stamp was issued by the Posts and and Telegraph Department to pay homage to martyrs who laid down their lives for India's freedom.
—	Dr. Lajja Ram Tandon, a freedom fighter of Punjab, died of old age. He was 90.
24	Large parts of Assam were declared as "disturbed areas", all vital installations were proclaimed as "protcted areas" and provisions of the Armed Forces (Special) Power Act, 1958, were invoked to give blanket powers to the security forces including the right to shoot to kill in thsee disturbed areas under the notification issued by the Governor, L.P. Singh.
25	Ghana Members of Parliament, led by E. D. Mahami, first Deputy Speaker of the Ghana Parliament, who were on a two week visit to India watched the Lok Sabha proceedings from a special box.
—	More than 500 workers of the Bharatiya Janata Party courted arrest near Parliament House to protest against the postponement of elections to the Metropolitan Council and Municipal Corporation of Delhi. Agitators included former Chief Executive Councillor, Kedar Nath Sahni, former M.P. Kanwar Lal Gupta and V.K. Malhtora.
—	Ram Kishore Vyas, Lt. Governor of Pondicherry, was appointed Governor of North Eastern States (Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura) in place of L.P. Singh. Sadiq Ali, Governor of Tamil Nadu, was given the additional Charge of Adminstration of Pondicherry until a new Lt.

Governor was appointed. Admiral S.N. Kohli, former Chief of Naval Staff, was appointed Lt. Governor, Mijoram in place of M.P. Mathur. Jagmohan, Lt Governor of Delhi, was transferred to Goa, Daman and Diu to replace Col Pratap Singh Gill and S.L. Khurana, former Home Secretary, was appointed Lt. Governor of Delhi according to Rashtrapati Bhavan communique

March 26 In Srinagar, Dr. Farooq Abdullah (45), Member of Parliament, was declared elected unopposed as the new President of the ruling National Conference Party succeeding his father Shiek Mohammad Abdullah, Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

— Rajya Sabha passed the Sepecial Bearer Bonds Scheme and President gave his assent to the Bill on 27th March.

— Smt Sahodrabai Rai, Member of Parliament, died at Sagar in Madhya Pradesh. She was also a Member of the Second, Third and Fifth Lok Sabha.

— Speaking at a big Kisan rally in New Delhi organised by the Kisan Sangam, a Central Kisan coordination committee comprising the CPI (M), Akali Dal, R.S.S., Prajatantrik Lok Dal, Forward Bloc and Congress (U) respectively, warned that the farmers will refuse to sell their produce and bring the food distribution system to a standstill if the Government continues to ignore their long standing demands. A 12 point charter of demands including remunerative prices for agricultural produce was presented to Parliament.

28 Two Rohini-560 two stage "sounding rockets" were launched from SHAR centre at Sriharikota "for probing the upper atmosphere".

29 A fifteen-member standing committee of the National Integration Council was set up under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, to ensure proper implementation of Council's recommendations.

— Lakhandass, a veteran freedom fighter and former M.P, died at his native place in Bassi village of Tihar Tehsil. He was 84.

— V. C. Shukla resigned from the Chairmanship of Asian Games Committee.

30 A protocol on Indo-Soviet Cooperation in the field of planning was signed in New Delhi.

March 30 Tanzania President Julius Nyerere arrived in New Delhi on a five day State visit to India.

1 Rajasthan's veteran freedom fighter, Bhogi Lal Pandy (77), died in Jaipur. Mr. Pandey, whose life was dedicated to the upliftment of Adivasis in Southern Rajasthan, was the Minister of Industries in the Ministeries of Tika Ram Paliwal, Jai Narain Vyas and Mohan Lal Sukhadia. He was also the former Chairman of the State Khadi Board.

April 1 A constitutional crisis in Assam was averted by promulgating the Assam Appropriation (Vote on Account) Ordinace, 1981, authorising expenditure out of consolidated fund for the first four months of the 1981-82.

— Announcing the export policy for 1981-82 in Lok Sabha, Commerce Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, lifted export control on more items and liberalised export baggage rules but imposed an export ban on a few essential commodities to increase their domestic availability. The items, the export of which have been banned, included sugar, gur, pulses and wheat products.

— Prof. Nihar Ranjan Ray, Director, Institute of Historical Studies, Calcutta, has been appointed Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) of the Union Education Ministry.

— The three day border talks between the visiting Bangladesh Rifles delegation and the Indian side began in New Delhi. On 2nd April, the dispute between India and Bangladesh over the international boundary in the Lafasail area in Karimganj sub division of Cachar district was settled.

2 About 10 people, including a minor girl, were killed and 11 others injured when a fertilizer ladden truck in which they were travelling met an accident near Galkotdi village, about 40 km from Aoreli,

— Dr. A. U. Menon of the Janata Party was elected as the Mayor of Bombay for 1981-82, defeating Ramesh Dube of Congres (I).

— A fourteen member Indian team headed by Irrigation Minister, Rao Birendra Singh, arrived in Dacca for a meeting with Bangladesh officials to review the 1977 interim agreement on sharing the waters of the Ganga.

April 2 India and Canada signed a development loan assistance agreement for $ 20 million covering supply of equipment and services required for mining.

— International Development Agency approved a credit of $ 400 million for a fertiliser project at Hazira in Gujarat.

— Prof. Shankar Dev Vidyalankar, prominent Gujarati and Hindi writer, died in Bombay after a brief illness.

— R. K. Nehru, a fromer Secretary General of Foreign Affairs, died. He was 76. Mr. Nehru was a former member of the Indian Civil Serivce. Mr. Nehru served independent India with distinction in the foreign service. He represented India at the UN General Assembly in several sessions.

— The Union Government has decided to grant yet another dearness allowance instalment to its employees with effect from December 1, 1980.

3 Eight persons died and several others were injured in widespread violence during the 12 hour West Bengal Bandh. The Bandh call was given by the Congress (I) to protest against police firing on March 30. Chief Minister Jyoti Basu, however, accused the Congress (I) of creating an atmosphere of violence.

— New import policy was announced by the Commerce Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, in the Lok Sabha.

4 Bibuti Mishra, a vetern freedom fighter and former Congress M.P., died of heart attack at his residence at Motihari.

— Film writer, Arjun Dev Rashk, died at the Nanavati hospital (Bombay). He was 61.

— Nawab Singh Chauhan, former M.P. and freedom fighter, died at Aligarh Civil hospital. He was 72.

— Ramrao Deshmuskh, a close associate of Lokmanya Tilak and former member of Rajya Sabha, died at Pune. He was 89.

5 Chandrajit Yadav, M.P. and former U.P. Chief Minister Banarsi Das, launched a new Political Party called the Janavadi (Democratic) Party to mark a formel break with the Lok Dal headed by Charan Singhs. Chandrajit Yadav lashed out at Charan Singh's leadership of the Lok Dal.

— The former Chief Minister of Pondicherry, S. Ramaswamy, was expelled from AIADMK for "anti Party activities," according to Party sources.

April 5 Narottamdas Lalji Sheth, a freedom fighter, died. He was 82. Mr Sheth, who actively participated in freedom struggles, was jailed several times.

6 Chandrashekhar Dasgupta, presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed High Commissioner to Singapore in succession to Bhupatray Oza.

— Commissioner of Upper Assam Division, E. S. Parthasarthy, died in a powerful bomb blast in his office at Jorhat. Another bomb blast near Barpeta damaged product pipeline of the Indian Oil Corporation resulting in the suspension of pumping operations.

— Congress-(I) won two of the three Assembly seats in Andhra Pradesh in the by-elections held on April 5. A G. Krishna and S. Chandrasekhar of Congress-(I) won the Ibrahimpatnam and Palair seats respectively. In the Chirala Constituency S. Chandramouli of Janata defeated C.B. Bapoyyo Setti of Congress-(I).

— Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Abdul Sattar, Maldive's Minister of Fisheries, signed the first ever trade agreement between the two countries at Mali. The agreement envisaged, among other things, supply from India to Maldives of iterms required by her to be determined bilaterally on a yearly basis.

— The Lok Sabha referred to the previleges committee an incident in which a CPI member, Bhogendra Jha, was attacked and injured by PAC men at Gaziabad on April 3.

— Narendra Singh, presently Ambassador to Libya, has been appointed Ambassador to Switzerland in place of Gurbachan Singh.

— Nine persons were killed when the police fired on violent tobacco growers at Nippani in Belgaum district of Karnataka. The tobacco growers have been agitating for the last 21 days demanding remunerative prices for their produce and state takeover of tabacco trade.

— The pound has become cheaper by 15 paise following the upvaluation of the rupee by 0.82 percent by the Reserve Bank of India.

— Preet Mohan Singh Malik, present Ambassador to Cuba, has been appointed Ambassador to Jordon in place of Abdul Ghani Goni.

April 6 Ravinder Kumar Jerath, presently Minister in the Embassy of India, Washington, has been appointed Ambassador to Philippines to succeed Lakshmi Narayan Ray.

— Sarv Kumar Kathpalia, Ambassador to Peru has been accredited as Ambassador to Bolivia with residence in Lima.

— T.T.P. Abdullah, presently Director General of Police, Tamil Nadu, has been appointed Ambassador to Saudi Arabia in succession to A.K. Hafizka.

— Wahiduddin Malik took over as the new Vice Chancellor of Kashmir University.

7 28th National Film awards for 1980 were announced. Mrinal Sen's film "Aakaler Sandhane" (in Search of a Famine) was adjudged the best feature film for 1980. The second best feature film award goes to K S Sethumadhavan (Malayalam film) Oppol (elder sister). The producer of "Aakaler Sandhane" gets Swaran Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 50,000 and the director gets Swaran Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 25,000. The producer of "Oppol" will receive Rajat Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 30,000 and the director, Rajat Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 15,000.

8 M.R. Sherwani, member of Rajya Sabha, died of heart attack. He was 59. A leading industriaist, Sherwani was President of the All India Muslim Education Society and a member of the Legislative Council of the Aligarh Muslim University. He was serving for the third time in the Rajya Sabha.

— Parimal Ghosh, a former Union Minister, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Turkey.

— Srikrishna Das, freedom fighter and an eminent journalist and Hindi writer, died in Allahabad. He was 64.

9 Bhartiya Socialist Party, a break away group of the old Socialist Party, merged with the Democratic Socialist Front headed by H.N. Bahuguna.

— Centre accorded the status of a Central Minister to Dr. Gopal Singh, Chairman of the High Power Panel on Minorities.

— The Government extended by another six months the superession of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The order said that the Corporation was superseded last year as it had "persistently made default and shown incompetence in the performance of its duties and had abused its powers". A new direction and orientation had been given to civic policies and the present extension seeks to complete the process.

April 9 India and the Soviet Union signed a protocol providing for cooperation in areas related to utilisation of marginal grade limestone.

10 India and the Soviet Union signed a protocol on a joint scientific programme in meteorology.

11 Dr. B.A. Chougule confirmed that he has resigned as Vice Chancellor of Punjabrao Krishi Vidyapeeth (Nagpur).

— The Eastern Zones Council (Sikkim, West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar) meeting in Gantok under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, decided to form seven to nine standing committees to study problems of member States. Inaugurating the meeting, Zail Singh, emphasised the need to make zonal councils more purposeful in an endeavour for inter State cooperation in all matters.

— In Madhya Pradesh the Legislative assembly passed by a voice vote the Lokayukta Bill which excludes the Chief Minister, the Leader of Opposition, the Speaker and the Members of the House form purview of its inquiry.

— It was formally announced that C.R.Krishnaswamy Rao Sahib, present Secretary to the Prime Minister, will be the new Cabinet Secretary. He will succeed S.S. Grewal who retires on April 30. Dr. P.C. Alexander will be the new Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister.

12 Addressing the inaugural session of 300 member Palestine National Council (Parliament), Lok Sabha Speaker, Balram Jakhar, reaffirmed India's continued support to the just struggle of Palestinian people. Condemning Israel's usurpation of Palestinian and Arab lands in strong terms, he said he can assure them that every Indian is with them

— Deepak Bhargava, national junior boy's champion, became the first Indian to win the Asian Junior titles at the Fateh Maidan courts (Hyderabad).

— Former West Bengal Legislative Assembly Speaker, Bejoy Kumar Banerjee, died in Calcutta. He was 75.

— Forty six persons were killed including six children and 33 were injured when a private bus carrying pligrims met with an accident at Sikharam, 8 km from Srisailam (Hyderabad).

April 12 A Rashtrapati Bhavan communique said that C.P.N. Singh, Minister of State for Science, Technology and Electronices, will hold the additional charge of environment.

— Veteran journalist and follower of Mahatma Gandhi, Phanindranath Mukhopdhaya, died at his Agarpara residence in 24-Parganas district. He was 82.

13 B.F. Bratchenko, USSR Minister for Coal industry, arrived in New Delhi leading a nine member delegation on an eight day official visit.

— Dr. Y. Nayudamma, former Director General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, has been appointed Vice Chancellor of the Jawaharlal Nehru University.

— In Gujarat, the junior doctors and medical students have unconditionally withrawn their 102 day old anti reservation agitation following a 12 point agreement with Gujarat Government. This followed night long talks between medicos and Chief Minister, Madhavsingh Solanki. Speaking to newsemen, Dr. Mrugesh Vaishnav, President of the junior doctors and medicos action committee said that although strike is being withdrawn, the agitationists, main demand for total abolition of reservation is still open since no compromise has been reached on the issue. On 14th April incidents of arson and stone throwing marred Ahmedabad as incensed non medical students directed their wrath against medico leaders, calling their action in withdrawing the anti reservation stir, as betrayal of the student community. The junior doctors and medical students in Baroda also continued their strike and decided to boycott classes till all those arrested under NSA were released.

— In a resolution passed unanimously at the World Sikh Convention at Anandapur Sahib, sponsored by Akali Dal (Talwandi), the Sikhs sought the status of an associate membership in UN. This, according to the movers of the resolution, has become necessary for honourable survival of the Sikhs, with a dignified status and rebuilding "Des Punjab", a new name sought to be given for present Punjab and Punjabi speaking areas within Union of India.

— Krishna Kripalani, former Member of the Rajya Sabha, has been appointed Chairman of the National Book Trust.

— S A. Dange's expulsion from CPI was formalised by its highest policy making body, the National Council, at a meeting in New Delhi thereby ending his 50 years association with the Party, of which he was one of the founders. It is the culmunation of a long tussle between Dange and the dominant groups since the CPI started repudiating its earlier policy of supporting Indira Gandhi, while continuing to maintain that CPI's support for Indira Gandhi was the correct line, Dange charged the dominant group with entering into a secret agreement with the CPM, whose only result could be the "liquidation of CPI".

April 13 Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, arrived in New Delhi on a visit to India. Later he had talks with India's Foreign Minister, Narasimha Rao. The two Ministers agreed that bilateral ties which have progressed satisfactorily should be expanded and diversified on the basis of mutual respect, non-interference in each others affairs and for mutual benefit.

14 According to a British Information Service Press release, Britain will give about 81 crores rupees of grant aid towards the cost of Thal fertiliser complex at Maharashtra. Britain is the largest bilateral aid donar to India and gave India over Rs. 250 crores as aid in 1980-81, an increase of Rs. 33 crores over 1979-80.

— Arun Kumar Das, 60, a veteran Trade Union leader, died of cancer. He was a close associate of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

— At least 12 persons died and many were admitted to hospitals in a serious condition after consuming illicit liquor at the oil town Sigboi in Upper Assam.

— India and Saudi Arabia signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement aimed at encouraging investment and flow of capital and exchange of goods and products. Saudi Arabia will also give a loan of 106 million riyals (about $ 32 million) to finance the Koel Karo hydro electric project in Bihar.

— Thakur Kartar Singh, Finance Minister of Jammu and Kashmir during Maharaja Hari Singh's regime, died in Jammu. He was 101.

15 Akali leader Jagdev Singh Talwandi and his followers were arrested near Parliament House for violating prohibitory orders and later released under an "admonition". They demonstrated in support of their demand for "Sikh nation" with representation in the United Nation.

April 15 The class three and four employees of the Life Insurance Corporation of India called off their two week old strike. The Employees Union spokesman, R. P. Manchanda, announced this to newsmen within hours of the Supreme Court order to the LIC management to pay the class III and class IV staff within a week 15 percent bonus along with 12 percent interest from the date the payment fell due.

— Five persons and about 200 pet animals perished in a devastating fire which razed to the ground the entire village Oorigaon, about 30 km from Pali district headquarters (Jaipur).

16 Admiral S. N. Kohli, a former Chief of Naval Staff, was sworn in as the new Lt. Governor of Mizoram succeeding N.P. Mathur.

— British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, who arrived in India on 15th April, while addressing the Members of both Houses of Parliament, tried to assuage India's apprehension about the Nationality Bill by declaring that those who had adopted British citizenship "will continue to be British citizen" just as I am with the same rights. She said that there is nothing in the proposed law which discriminates against any social or nationality group. India and Britain also signed five memoranda of understanding covering an extensive area of economic cooperation between the two countries including two United Kingdom grants totaling Rs. 169 crores, a convention on avoiding double taxation and British help in constructing two coalfields in Raniganj and Bokaro. Both the countries also signed a five year renewable agreement on collaboration in space science.

— President Sanjiva Reddy appointed Tamil Nadu Governor, Sadiq Ali, as the Administrator of Pondicherry in addition to his present charge till a new Lt. Governor is appointed.

— Ram Kishore Vyas, Governor designate of the North Eastern States, died after a massive heart attack at Jaipur. He was 74 and till recently was Lt. Governor of Pondicherry.

— Ram Krishna Nigam, a freedom fighter and veteran Congressman, died. He was 84.

— The Vice Chancellor of Patna University, Dr. Ramavtar Shukla, resigned.

— V. Shankar, I C S, Secretary to the former Prime Minister Morarji Desai, died at his residence. He was 72. He played historic role as Private Secretary to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel during the turbulent post independence days.

April 17 The first General Manager of Press Trust of India, A.S. Bharatan, died.

— More than 120 persons were feared killed in four villages under the Sompatna police station of Keonjhar district (Orissa) when a tornado hit the villages, according to official sources. All the houses in the four villages were reported destroyed, rendering about 6,000 people homeless.

18 Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, A.D. Kale, released Narendra Kapadia, a former Sheriff of Bombay, on a personal bond of Rs. 50,000 till the court passed orders on his bail application due to come on April 20. The C.B.I. told the court that Kapadia "is the kingpin of a conspiracy to obtain official secret documents relating to the Thal Vaishet ammonia plant contract".

— Mahavira award for 1980 was presented to the Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, for his meritorious services in the field of promotional harmony and development of the Punjab and the country.

— Nirmalendu Choudhury, well known folk singer of Bengal, died. He was 60.

— Urdu was declared as Bihar's second official language, according to a Government notification. Besides Hindi, Urdu may also be used now for official purposes in 15 of the 32 districts of the State.

19 Abdul Waheed Siddiqui, veteran freedom fighter and Editor of "Nai Duniya," a local (New Delhi) Urdu weekly, died.

— Air Commodore C.K.S Raje, (AVSM) has been promoted to the rank of Air Vice Marshal and deputed to the Cabinet Secretariat.

— B. Malik, former Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court and a former Vice Chancellor of Calcutta University, died. He was 87.

— The Capital paid its tributes to Faiz Ahmed Faiz, noted Pakistani poet, at a function organised to celebrate his 70th birthday.

20 P.N. Khode, Congress (I) M.L A. from Balapur Constituency, died after a prolonged illness. He was 65 years old

21 In Delhi half a million workers were on strike to demand an increase in minimum wages of an unskilled worker from Rs.

240 to Rs. 500 per month, abolition of contract and casual labour, guaranteed supply of essential commodities at subsidized rates and employment for all. Barring few incidents between the loyal and agitating groups of workers, it was peaceful and did not effect the normal life of the city. Essential services like water and electricity were not effected. The strike call had been given by CITU, ATTUC, Hind Mazdoor Sabha, Bharat Mazdoor Sangh and INTUC.

April 22 According to enforcement officials from Srinagar, a violent mob raising "anti India" slogan attacked and manhandled a party of income tax officials of the enforcement directorate who had raided the premises of several leading exporters on 21 and 22 April 1981 for unaccounted money in the fashionable market complex in Srinagar.

— Assam Cabinet withdrew precensorship imposed on December 23, 1980 on three dailies and two weeklies in the State to maintain public order during foreigners issue agitation.

— The Government announced in both Houses of Parliament its decision to ask the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) to pay bouns to its class III and class IV employees for the fiscal years 1978-79 and 1979-80 in order to uphold the "rule of law". The decision came within hours of the Supreme Court rejecting the application by the L I.C and the Union of India seeking vacation of the courts' order of April 15 directing the L.I.C. to pay bonus by today.

— Government constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of (Smt) Ram Dulari Sinha, Minister of State for Labour, to look into the implementation of the recommendations of the Paleker tribunal for journalists and non-journalists. The other members were : S S. Sisodia, Minister of State for Finance and Kumud Joshi, Deputy Minister for Information and Broadcasting.

— H. Mehboob, Malayalam playback singer, died after a prolonged illness. He was 52.

Lt. Gen. S.K. Sinha was appointed General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command.

— President Sanjiva Reddy presented Arjuna Awards to nine sprotsmen and one sportswoman including Kapil Dev (Cricket), Prasun Banerjee (Football), Vasudevan Bhaskaran (Hockey), in New Delhi for achieving distinction in their respective disciplines during the year 1979-80. Indu Puri was absent as she was away in Novisad (Yugoslavia) representing India in the World Table Tennis Championship.

April 22 Speaking in the Security Council, India's External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao called the two steps to speed up the independence of mineral rich Namibia from Pretoria's rule-the imposition of comprehensive sanctions including, trade and oil embargo against South Africa and intensification of the freedom struggle by the Namibian people.

23 Eleven persons were burnt alive and several heads of cattle perished in the season's worst fire which gutted about 1,000 houses in Singirpur village in Digapahand tehsil of Ganjam district.

— Entire Opposition, except Muslim League and the DMK, staged a walk out when the Lok Sabha gave leave to Home Minister, Zail Singh, by 116 votes to 44, to introduce the Disturbed Areas (Special Courts) Amendment concurrent power on the centre Bill. The Bill sought to amend the 1976 Act to confer to declare an area as "disturbed area" for the purpose of constituting special courts for providing speedy trial for certain specific classes of offences committed

— Kanpur district was formally split into two, Kanpur Nagar and Kanpur Dehat, with effect from April 23, bringing the total numebr of districts in Uttar Pradesh to 57. The formation of the new district will cost the State exchequer about Rs. 15 crores.

— Lt. Gen. A.S. Vaidya was appointed as General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command.

24 At least 25 commuters were killed and 130 injured, 68 of them seriously, in a collision between two suburban trains on the Central Railway's harbour line. Of the two Central Railway trains involved in an accident, one was going from Bandra to Bombay V.T. and the other one was Chembur bound train from Bombay V.T.

— Ikram-Ul-Haq,International football referee, died. He was 50.

— The National Integration Council's Committee on Communal Harmony which held its first meeting in New Delhi felt that though the principal of reservation enshrined in Constitution and recently endorsed unanimously by Parliament could not be questioned, there was urgent need to review some aspects of this policy. The policy in respect of promotion and admission to professional and technical courses needed re-examination. The meeting attended by 16 of 20 members was presided over by the Home Minister, Zail Singh Sheik Abdullah, Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, who is a member of the Committee, did not attend.

April 25 Dr. Har Swarup, Vice Chancellor of Jiwaji University, Gwalior, died, he was 58.

— "Khubsoorat" jointly produced by N.C. Sippy and Hrishikesh Mukherjee won the best film award in the 28th annual Filmfare award. Rekha, in the same film, won the best actress award. "Aakrsoh" won four awards-best story (Vijay Tendulkar), the best supporting actor (Om Puri), best director (Govind Nihalani) and best actor (Nasiruddin Shah). The best supporting actress award was given to Padmini Kolhapure for her performance in "Insaf ka Tarazu". Nazia Hassan, the young Pakistani singer settled in London, won best playback singer (female) award. The best male playback singer award goes to Kishore Kumar. The best music award was won by Laxmikant-Pyarelal for "Karz" The Film "Apne Paraye" directed by Basu Chatterjee, has been recommended for special award.

27 Dr. G.S. Sindhu, retired Director of the Regional Research Laboratory in Hyderabad, was appointed Director of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

— Marshal N.V. Ogarkov, Chief of Soviet Armed Forces and First Deputy Defence Minister, arrived in Delhi on a four day visit.

— Rear Admiral G.J.K. Peck, PVSM (Retd) died of heart failure.

— Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, informed the Lok Sabha that an attempt has been made to sabotage Air India Boing 707 aircraft "Makalu" which was scheduled to take the Prime Minister on her tour of Switzerland, Kuwait and UAE from May 5 to 13. Certain vital cable systems namely, those relating to elevator, rudder horizontal stabliser and rudder trim were intentionally cut in a manner as to ordinarily preclude detection, disclosed the Minister. Condemning the incident, all sections of the House expressed serious concern and urged Government to bring the culprit to book expeditiously. Mean while the Air India authorities lodged a formal complaint with the Central Bureau of Investigtion (CBI) to track down the culprits. On 28th April, Central Bureau of Investigation found fine chisel and hammer used for sabotaging the cable system of the Makalu aircraft . Investigations so far revealed that expert technicians damaged the four cables in such a way that the "eighty percent damage" system would have collapsed after four take-offs i.e. to crash on the way to Delhi at the concluding journey of the Prime Minster. Top technicians of the Air India, however, maintained that the cutting of cables to elevator, rudder, horizontal stabliser and rudder trim "need not necessarily have led to an accident. Meanwhile Opposition membres and Congress (I) member, Jagdish Tytler, in the Lok Sabha, asked Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, to resign because of the Government's failure to ensure full protection to the Prime Minister.

April 28 Amir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman al-Khalifa, who was on an official visit to New Delhi, reaffirmed at a meeting with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi that the security of the Gulf region should primarily be the responsibility of the Gulf countries, Indira Gandhi during the talks reiterated India's continuing concern at the impasse over the West Asian situation and reaffirmed New Delhi's support to the PLO. The countries also signed separately the first cultural exchange programme as a follow up of the agreement reached between them six years ago. On 30th April, a joint communique was issued by India and Bahrain at the end of Bahrain Amir's visit to India.

— Bhavsinhji Jhala (46), Minister of State for Civil Supplies (Gujarat), died after a heart attack.

— Estimates Committee in its 16th report tabled in the Lok Sabha expressed concern at the exploitation of young Indian girls who were enticed into marriage by foreign nationals, particularly from West Asian countries and later deserted or ill-treated or forced to take to unpleasant and indecent practies.

— Major (retired) K.C. Kapur, former Chief Public Relations Officer, Western Command and a well known sportsman and a sports organiser, died. He was 70.

— Public Accounts Committee in its 37th report presented to the Lok Sabha criticised the Ministry of Defence for procuring old Packet aircraft in 1960 and again in 1963 without making a critical evaluation of its performance, its reliability and serviceability.

29 Five senior officers of Air India namely : Director of Engineering M.P. Kharkar, Deputy Director of Engineering (Maintenance) A. S. Karnik, Security Managers, T. N. Raisinghani and R. Srinivasan and Senior Security Officer S.N.S.Y. Rao were dismissed as a sequel to the Makalu sabotage case within minutes of Home Minister Zail Singh's visit to Air India's workshop at old Santa Cruz airport.

— A promising Delhi footballer succumbed to head injuries he sustained in an accident.

30 According to a statement laid on the table of the Rajya Sabha by the Union Minister of State for Labour, Ram Dulari Sinha, a total of about 120 newspapers and other

publications in Maharashtra, U.P., Assam, Rajasthan and Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh have so far implemented the Palekar wage award for journalists and non-journalists. Both the English news agencises—PTI and UNI—had also implemented the award.

April 30 Bhutan's Foreign Minister, Lyon Po Dawa Tsering, arrived in New Delhi on a three day visit to India. He told newsmen at the airport that his aim is for exploring ways and means to strengthen the bilateral ties between India and Bhutan.

— The CBI arrested four persons in connection with the alleged sabotage attempt on Air India aircraft, "Makalu", which would have taken the Prime Minister on her foreign tour. A CBI spokesman gave the names of those arrested as—Bhupendra C. Patel and Unnikrishnan Alatta, both Air India technicians, Kumar Ganesan, an assistant mechanical engineer of the airlines and Sydney Noronha, whom the CBI described as a dismissed technician of the airlines.

— Eleven persons were burnt alive when some explosive material stored in a house at Hasanpur Chowk, 60 km from Moradabad, caught fire.

— A nine member Egyptian Parliamentary delegation led by Deputy Speaker, Mohamed Hamid Radwan, arrived in New Delhi on a six day visit at the invitation of Rajya Sabha Chairman, M. Hidayatullah and Lok Sabha Speaker, Balram Jakhar.

— P.N. Bhal, Administrator, New Delhi Municipal Committee, was appointed Commissoner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi. He took over charge from J. N. Singh who has retired.

— Six persons, including three women and one child, were killed, six injured and three shops set ablaze as rioting broke out in Biharsharif following a brawl at a country liquor shop involving members of two communities. Shoot at-sight orders were given to police in this town on 2nd May. The town has been under indefinite curfew. As a result of communal flareup in Biharsharif town and adjoining area, 48 persons died. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi visited the riot affected areas.

— The Soviet Union will receive from India cereals and goatskin besides a few other items in exchange for an additional 1.35 million tonnes of crude and petroleum products it will ship to India in the current year. This was stipulated in a supplementary protocol signed in Moscow by a visiting Indian delegation led by the Commerce Secretary, P.K. Kaul, and Soviet authorities.

April 30 Twenty persons were killed, 16 of them on the spot, when a Himachal State Road Transport Corporation bus met with an accident on Chaupal Sainj Road, 60 km from Simla.

May 1 Communist leader, S.A. Dange, who was recently expelled from the Communist Party of India (CPI), joined the All India Communist Party (AICP), formed by his daughter, Roza Deshpande.

— Krishna Swamy Rao Saheb, former Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, has taken over as Cabinet Secretary. He took over from outgoing Cabinet Secretary, P.S. Grewal.

2 The Indian Hockey Federation Eleven won the Beighton Cup, defeating Mohammedan Sporting by an aggregata of one-nil in the double leg final held in Calcutta.

— Bharatiya Janata Party announced the names of its Parliamentary Board. Besides Atal Behari Vajpayee the other members were K.S. Hegde, Vijay Raje Scindia, S.S. Bhandari, Ram Jethmalani, L.K. Advani, Jagannath Rao Joshi and Sikander Bakht.

— Dr. Bhagwat Saran Upadhyaya has been appointed High Commissioner of India to Mauritius.

— Mehar Singh, founder Secretary of three National sports federations, died after a protracted illness at Chesapeare in United States.

— Miss Rachita Kumar was crowned "Miss India" at a contest organised by "Femina" in Bombay.

— The new regional office building of UNICEF was inaugurated at Lodhi Estate (New Delhi) by P.V. Narasimha Rao, External Affairs Minister.

— P.C. Alexander took over as Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi.

— The former Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Dr. Y.S. Parmar, died of throat cancer Dr. Parmar, who was in his late 70s, has been ailing for more than a year and a half. Dr. Parmar, who was twice the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, was instrumental in the formation of the State in 1948. He was popularly known as "Himachal Nirmata" (creator of Himachal).

3 Jagbir Singh Tyagi, member of AICC-I resigned from the Congress (1) primary membership and joined Lok Dal.

May 3 Nargis Dutt, the famous film actress and nominated member of Rajya Shbha, died of cancer at Bombay. She was 51.

4 Adout 200 pilgrims were feared drowned when a drum bridge across the Narmada near Surpaneshwar in Broach district of Gujarat collapsed.

— At least 17 persons, including 11 Harijans have been shot dead by the dacoit gangs led by Pothi and Mahavira in Etah district during the past 48 hours.

— Former Assam Minister and Congress (I) MLA, Lakhyanatha Doley, died in Assam medical college. He was 60.

— The pound sterling has become cheaper by 15 paise following the upvaluation of the rupee by 0.85 percent by the Reserve Bank of India. The Bank has fixed a middle rate of Rs. 17.75 per pound sterling against the earlier price of Rs. 17.90.

— Prem Singh, acting Indian High Commissioner to Mauritius, has been appointed Ambassador to Bahrain in succession to Hari Krishan Mahajan.

— Seven Commonwealth countries signed a fromal agreement Kuala Lumpur for a 63 million dollars telecommunications cable project linking India with Malaysia. The project which is expected to be fully operational by the middle of next year, is being financed by the seven partners, with India and Malaysia contributing the larger share. The five others were Canada, Australia, Britain, Sri Lanka and Singapore.

5 The Government has approved of 8.5 percent interest per annum to subscribers of the employees provident fund for 1980-82. This will benefit over 10 million subscribers.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi left for Geneva on the first leg of her 9 day three nation tour that will later take her to Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

— Normal life in the Manipur capital was disturbed following a 24 hour "Manipur bandh" called by the People's Democratic Front.

— The trading community registered a countrywide protest against the Bill to amend the Essential Commodities Act now before Parliament expressing fears that it would reduce wholesale and retail traders to "third grade" citizens.

— The vateran freedom fighter, Gopal Ram Aggarwal, died in Bareilly. He was 90. A highly respected person in the Bareilly and Shahjahanpur areas, Mr. Aggarwal had turned down freedom fighters pension and the Tamrapatra.

May 6 Addressing the 34th session of the World Health Assembly, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi called for abolition of patents for medical discoveries and compensation to the developing nations for the brain drain of their doctors and nurses. She pointed out that drug manufacture has become a powerful industry and urged that there should be no profiteering from life or death.

— Arjun Gobindram Asrani, at present Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, has been appointed Ambassador to Libya in succession to Narendra Singh.

— Disturbed Areas (special courts) Amendment Bill seeking to empower the Central Government to declare any area as a disturbed area and to set up special courts was passed by the Lok Sabha by 110 votes to 44. Most of the Opposition members staged a walk out.

— Dr. Y. Nayudamma, scientist, has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University.

— The Gauhati High Court struck down the law imposing per-censorshlip of News.

— Managements of Hindustan Aeronautics, Bharat Electronics, Indian Telephone Industries and Bharat Earth Movers, all Government of India undertakings, declared a lock out in their Bangalore units as the managements apprehended danger to personnel and property of the factories.

— Supreme Court unconditionally released the ailing Naxalite leader Nagabhushan Patnaik on parole without specifying the period of parole.

— Tset cricket star, Kapil Dev, married Romi.

7 Bihar became the first state in the country to impose punitive tax on inhabitants of areas experiencing caste or communal violence or public disorder endangering the life and property of a section of the people.

— Japan will extend to India a loan of 92 million dollars for the Hajira fertiliser plant in Surat (Gujarat), according to an agreement signed in Tokyo between the two Governments.

— Lok Sabha adopted a motion rescinding a resolution of the Sixth Lok Sabha, adopted on December 19, 1978, which had expelled Indira Gandhi from the House and ordered her imprisonment along with R.K. Dhawan, Additional Private Secretary to the Primé Minister and D. Sen, former Director of the Central Bureau of Invetigation. The Opposition members, barring those of DMK and the Muslim League, walked out after about two hours of noisy prodceedings.

May 7 Meghalaya Chief Minister. B.B. Lyngdoh, laid down office in favour of Captain Williamson Sangma, ending a two year leadership and beginning a "unique" chapter in Indian politics of sharing office during a single term of the Legislature. An agreement reached on May 7,1979 among the partners of the ruling United Meghalaya Parliamentary Democratic Forum provided that Lyngdoh would hand over the Chief Ministership to Captain Sangma, Leader of Congress (I), after completion of two years in office.

— Norway will grant Rs. 3.5 crores for financing the extention of the all India hospitals family welfare programme under an agreement signed in New Delhi.

— Pratap Singh Negi, a former Member of Parliament and vateran freedom fighter, announccd at New Delhi his decision to leave the Congress (I) and supprot the Democratic Socialist Front led by H.N. Bahuguna.

— V.P. Puri, editor of the Urdu film weekly "Chitra", died of a heart attack. He was 65. "Chitra" , one of the capital's oldest film weeklies, was started be Mr. Puri in Lahore, 48 years ago.

8 Chairman of the Parliamentary Board of Indian Union Muslim League, Shujaat-Ullah Khan, while addressing a press conference, declared that he has set up a parallel Indian Muslim League and decided to break away from the Party headed by Sulaiman Seth. Criticizing Sulaiman Seth, he described him as having "dictatorial and a zamindar's attitude". He further said that his new Party will cooperate with All India Muslim League which supports CPI(M).

— The Congress (I) Parliamentary Board, which met in New Delhi to finalise the list of the Party candidates for the Lok Sabha and Assembly by-elections, finalised Rajiv Gandhi's name for contesting the Lok Sabha by-election from Amethi in Uttar Pradesh.

— India's Ambassador to Austria, Mr. Dalal, has been unanimously elceted Chairman of the 15th session of the UNIDO Permanent Committee.

May 8 Prof. N.S. Ramachandran, noted composer and musician, died. He was 78. Prof. Ramachandran was former Dean of the Department of Music and Fine Arts of the Delhi University and Chief Producer of Carnatic Music of the AIR.

— A sixteen member Meghalaya Ministry headed by the Congress (I) leader Captain Williamson Sangma assumed office. There was only one change (besides replacement of Lyngdoh by Capt. Sangma) in the composition of the Ministry to that of Prithigton Sangma, Minister of State for Sericulture and Weaving who had been replaced by Upstar Khabuli.

— The Supreme Court gave directions that Additional High Court Judges, who do not want to respond to the circular of the Union Law Minister for indicating their consent to their transfer outside their States may do so pending disposal of the writ petitions against it. A four Judge bench headed by Justice P.N. Bhagwati, also directed that an Additional Judge shall not be refused extention of his tenure or appointment as a permanent judge of the High Court on the ground that he had not indicated his preference as asked for by the Law Minister in his circular.

— Dr. (Mrs.) Durgabai Deshmukh, veteran freedom fighter and eminent social worker, died at Hyderabad after a long illness. She was 71.

— Inaugurating the North Zonal Council meeting in Simla, Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, asked the Chief Ministers of northern States to deal with disruptionist elements in a firm manner. He urged that this forum can be utilized to foster harmonious relations between one State and another and to settle inter-state disputes with a measure of understanding and goodwill.

— Pandit Sunder Lal, freedom fighter and author, died in New Delhi. He was 94. As a student he came in close contact with Lala Lajpat Rai, Lokmanya Tilak and Aurobindo Ghosh and became the chief organiser of the revolutionary movement in northern India. He disguised himself as a sanyasi under the name of Swami Someshwara Nand to avoid arrest. He met Mahatma Gandhi in 1916 and from 1921 to 1942 he participated in every styagraha movement suffering imprisonment eight times. He was author of more than 50 books, the most famous of which was "British Rule in India".

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was received with great warmth and affection by Arab dignitaries led by the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaik Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah when she arrived at Kuwait at the start of a five-day visit to the strategic and oil-rich Gulf region from Zurich. Indira Gandhi had several rounds of discussions with the Amir of Kuwait as a result of which, on 10th May, Kuwait agreed to provide Rs. 52 crore as loan for the Anpara Thermal Project in Uttar Pradesh and has shown interest in contributing to the foreign exchange component of the giant Thal Vaishat fertiliser project.

May 10 Andhra Pradesh Finance Minister, G. Rajaram, was killed on the spot when his car skidded off the road and hit a tree at Ramayanpet in Medak district.

— Joint Action Front (JAF) of the employees union of Hindustan Aeronautics, Bharat Electronics, Indian Telephone Industries and Bharat Earth Movers, all Government of India undertakings units in Bangalore, called off their 12 day old hunger-strike and agreed to negotiate the demands of the employees with the management of the above mentioned five units. This decision came in the wake of the announcement of the Union Communications Minister, C.M. Stephen, in Parliament that the management of the companies would negotiate with the respective employees union and not with the JAF.

— The noted educationist and Marathi writer, Prof. Vinayak Madhav Dixit Patwardhan, died at Nasik. He was 73.

— Rameshwar Dayal, 71, former President of the Gymanastics Federation of India, died. Mr. Dayal was also the Joint Secretary of the Indian Olympic Association and a member of Delhi Sports Council.

11 Centre set up a six member Railway Reforms Committee headed by former Cabinet Secretary, B.D. Pande, who will have the status of a Minister of State. Its terms of reference included reviewing of organisational structure, recommending amendments to Railways Act and reorganising existing railway zones and divisions. It will also suggest methods of raising financial resources for investment in new railway lines and for modernisation of existing facilities.

— Congress (I) General Secretary, Vasantdada Patil, while announcing the list of Party nominees for the forthcoming by-elections, named Rajiv Gandhi from Amethi, Begum Abida Ahmed from Bareilly, Chandra Mohan Singh Negi from Garhwal, P.K.P. Tewari from Allahabad and Uma Kant Misra from Mirzapur for the five vacant Lok Sabha seats from U.P. H.N. Bahuguna, leader of Democratic Socialist Front has filed his nomination papers for the Garhwal-Dehradun Parliamentary Constituency.

— An indefinite curfew was clamped on the Latouche Road and Nazirabad areas of Lucknow after the police opened fire to disperse warring groups of vegetable sellers belonging to two communities.

May 11 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the President of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan-al-Nahyan, expressed concern at the growing tensions in the Indian Ocean region, during preliminary discussions soon after the arrival of the Indian Prime Minister from Kuwait. Both were in agreement that there is an urgent need for elimination of the super power military presence in West Asian and Gulf regions and Indian Ocean. On 12th May Indian Prime Minister and UAE President had another round of talks. They agreed on expansion and diversification of economic relations between the two countries. Among other things, the UAE agreed to meet additional crude requirements of India, having already increased its supply this year to 1.5 million tonnes. On 13th May, a joint communique was issued at the end of three day official visit of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the UAE. The two countries declared that the stability of West Asia and Indian subcontinent is closely interlinked and called for removal of the super power preseence in the region.

— The World Bank announced three interest free loans worth 88 million dol'a- for farm training in Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Madhya Pradesh will get $37 million, Tamil Nadu $28 million and Maharshtra $23 million. Repayment of loans from the Bank's International Development Association will take 50 years, including a 10 year grace period.

12 All the four Air India employees arrested in connection with the alleged sabotage of the Airlines Boeing "Makalu" were ordered to be released on bail by a Metropolitan Magistrate, A.C. Velkar. In his order the Magistrate stated that the CBI has failed to show any conclusive circumstances justifying the detention of the employees.

— At least 25 persons were killed and 50 injured when a bus carrying three marriage parties caught fire 8 km from Chhatarpur.

— The Cabinet in Bihar approved a scheme under which the educated unemployed in the State between 21 and 40 years of age will get an allowance of Rs. 50 a month provided they have been on the registers of the employment exchange for five years. Only those whose parents or guardians do not have an annual income of over Rs. 5,000 will be entitled to the allowance.

May 12	India has been re-elected to the UNICEF executive board for a three year term beginning from August 1 this year.
—	P. Parshuram, the late Jayaprakash Narayan's Secretary and a noted Gandhian, died. He was 62.
13	Indian Airlines signed an agreement with the Boeing company of the USA for the purchase of four additional Boeing 737 aircrafts to be delivered in 1982.
—	The President of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, B.R. Dandavate, died in Bombay following a massive heart attack. He was 52.
—	The prestigious tourism award, the Pacific Area Travel Association (PATA) award 1980, was bagged by the Rajasthan Tourism Department.
—	Prime Minister Indira Gandhi returned to New Delhi after her nine day visit to Switzerland, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. Talking to newsmen at the airport, she said she found "friendship and goodwill" wherever she went and described it a "good trip".
—	Sayyad Ali Khan ,who acted mainly as a villain in Hindi films, died. He was 68.
14	Air Vice- Marshal M.N. Dutt, air officer commanding, maritime airoperations, IAF, died of a massive heart attack.
—	Birendranath Basak, former Olmpian water polo player, died.
—	The former Maharaja of the erstwhile Kota State, Trivikramacharya, was killed in a road accident on the Junagadh-Rajkot highway.
—	Indian Oil Corporation signed the biggest ever Rs. 1,000 crore contract in Moscow with the State owned Russian oil organisation, Saujeneftexport, for the supply of 25 lakh tonnes of crude, 1.3 lakh tonnes of Kerosene and 9.5 lakh tonnes of diesel in 1981.
—	A three member team of the Indo-Tibetan border police skied down the 25, 447 feet summit of Mount Kamet.
15	About 90,000 members of the railways, belonging to the loco and traffic department, will get benefits of Rs. 30 crores in the form of improved pay scales, higher dearness allowance and increased running allowance rates under an agreement reached in New Delhi between the Railway Board and the recognised fedarations.

May 15 India will receive a Rs. 120 crore assistance from Sweden for a two year period (1981-83) under an agreement signed in New Delhi by Tom Tscherning of the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and A.G. Asrani, Joint Sccretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, on behalf of their respective Governments.

— Jogaiya Muka, a Congress (I) MLA from Baster district, died following a heart attack. He was 45.

— Maj. Dudley J. Gardiner, a well-known social worker died of heart attack in South Calcutta. He was 71.

— Talking to newsmen at the Calcutta airport, Jatin Goswami, one of the conveners of the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) said that AAGSP is ready to accept 1961 as the cut off year for the settlement of the foreigners issue. He told a questioner that in no circumstances the AAGSP would accept 1971 as the cut-off year as proposed earlier by the Union Government.

16 The Additional Sessions Judge, Madras, P. Bhaskaran, permitted the Central Bureau of Investigation to withdraw its case against the DMK President and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M. Karunanidhi, what has come to be known as the wheat deal scandel. The special prosecutor of the CBI has filed an application for withdrawal of the case on the ground that key prosecution witnesses had all turned approvers.

— Sixteen persons of a marriage party were killed when the metador van in which they were travelling collided with a truck near Nandghat, 45 km from Raipur.

— Trade agreement between India and Zambia, signed in December 1978, came into force following the exchange in New Delhi of the instrument of ratification between A.C. Challkulima, Zambian High Commissioner in India and K. Prakash Anand, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce.

— Twenty four army ordinance depot employees were killed and 11 others injured in a bus accident which occurred at Banntalab, 32 km from Jammu, on Jammu Srinagar National Highway.

— A two year cultural exchange programme betweenI ndia and Mangolia was signed in New Delhi as part of Indo-Mangolian cultural programme, according to an official release. The programme envisages cooperation between institutions of higher learning, exchange of cultural troups and exhibitions and joint experiments in agricultural research.

May 16 Yadram Sharma, journalist and freedom fighter, died. He was 75.

17 The Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Ali Nasser Mohammed, arrived in Bombay on an official visit to India.

— Sant Harchand Singh Longowal was unanimously re-elected President of the Shiromani Akali Dal (Longowal) at a meeting in Amritsar. The meeting adopted seven resolutions that reiterated the Akali Dal's determination to work for the implementation of the Anandpur resolution and also its stand that Sikhs are a separate nation.

— Ten members of a marriage party, including three children, were killed on the spot and 11 others were injured seriously when their truck collided with another vehicle near Kandela village, 5 km from Jind.

18 At least 16 persons were electrocuted and 20 injured when a crowded private bus came into contact with an 11 kv high tension wire near Chindauri (Meerut).

— Dr. S.P. Ramakrishnan, 67, retired Director of the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi and a leading authority on the malaria eradication programme in South Asia and also Assistant Director of the World Health Organisation (South East regional office), passed away after a brief illness.

— Rajesh Awasthi, General Secretary of the Sitapur City (Lucknow) Congress-I Committee was shot dead.

— A small tripartite committee consisting of representatives of Assam movement leaders (AASU and AAGSP) and officials of the Home Ministry will be constituted to thrash out a formula to determine the future of foreigners who infiltrated into Assam between 1961 and 1971. The proposal mooted by the Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, at his brief separate meetings with the All Assam Students Unions and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad delegation was accepted by the movement leaders.

19 About 100 Bharatiya Janata Party workers led by V. K. Malhotra, President of the Delhi Unit of the Party, courted arrest in front of the Town Hall on the opening day of their week-long agitation to demand early elections in Delhi.

— A multi channel microwave radio telecommunication link between India and Bangladesh was inaugurated by the Bangladesh Minister for Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones, Mayeedul Islam, by calling the Indian Union Commerce Minister, Pranab Mukherjee.

May 19	Six students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, scaled the Himalayan Deo Tibba peak (6,036 metres) in the Manali region.
20	B.K. Majumdar, veteran freedom fighter and close associate of Jayaprakash Narayan, died. He was 79.
—	Dr. D.M. Nanundappa, Planning Secretary of Karnataka, has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Karantaka University. He would hold the office for three years
—	Information and Broadcasting Minister, Vasant Sathe, led the Indian delegation to the fifth meeting of the Inter-Government Council for Co-ordination of Information among Non-aligned countries at George Town (Guyana). The meeting was represented by thirteen of the 21 member countries in which Vasant Sathe was elected one of the three Vice Chairmen of the meeting
—	Karnataka Governor, Govind Narain, accepted the resignation of (Mrs.) Renuka Rajendran, Minister for Sericulture and Small Scale Industires. She had resigned her post alleging acceptance of a bribe of Rs. 25,000 from a candidate seeking appointment as a police officer.
—	S. B. K. Panicker, Deputy Commandant, Border Security Force, died.
—	Central Bireau of Investigation (CBI) claimed to have achieved a major breakthrough in its probe into the Air India's "Makalu" sabotage case with the arrest of senior aircraft technician Suresh Pandurang Inamdar following the seizure from his house of a snip believed to have been used in the sabotage. Official sources said the CBI now hopes to complete the investigation very soon.
—	Dr. A S. Gupta, a former Director of the Police Research and Development wing, died. He was 65. Mr. Gupta had won numerous awards for gallantry and bravery. He had received his doctorate in public administration and had published two books on the subject.
—	Punjab girls retained the junior national basketball trophy defeating Maharashtra.
—	Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, arrived in New Delhi on a four day State visit to India. During a two-hour meeting, Indian and Zimbabwe delegations led by their respective Prime Ministers, Indira Gandhi and Robert

Mugabe, considered the prospects of stepping up mutual trade and identifying a number of sectors in which the two countries can cooperate with each other.

May 20 An agreement on the utilisation of 234 million Dutch guilders, 165 million guilders as loan and 69 million guilders as grant, was reached between Indian and Dutch officials in New Delhi. It was agreed that 160 million guilders would be used for purchasing fertilisers and the balance for the procurement of trawlers and research launches and water supply schemes in Kerala, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan.

— The Government has reconstituted the censor board of film censors. Hrishikesh Mukherjee continues to be the Chairman of the censor board.

— India and Zimbabwe signed agreements for export of engineering goods, industrial plants and machinery, steel structures, non-ferrous products and a number of items of the light engineering, electronics and chemical industries.

— International Development Association (IDA) announced a credit of 125 million to India for the construction of godowns (storage and office facilities) and cold storage units in nine States. The credit is for 50 years including 10 years of grace and bears no interest. 3/4% is to be charged to cover administrative costs.

23 The Bihar Pradesh Congress (U) Chief and a former Chief Minister, Abdul Ghafoor, resigned from the Party.

— Dr (Mrs.) Debala Mitra has taken over as the Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India. She is the first woman to hold the post. She succeeds B. K. Thapar.

— T. N. Ramachandra has been appointed General Manager of the Central Railway, in place of A. K. Chakravarati who will be retiring on May 31. At present Mr. Ramachandrean is General Manager Southern Railway (Construction).

— Union Home Minister. Zail Singh, while opening the fourth All India Forensic Science Conference in Jaipur, called upon the Law enforcing authorities to adopt human approach while dealing with public.

24 A copy of the Koran translated into Gurumukhi script was released at a function at Malerkotla in Punjab.

May 24 At least 36 persons were feared to have been drowned when the bus, carrying them from Badrinath, fell into the Alaknanda river. The tragedy occured at a point, 9 km from Badrinath towards Hanuman Chatti.

— In the biggest ever temple theft in Kerala, a 4.6 kg solid gold idol of Shiva, the presiding deity of the famous mahadeva temple at Ettumanoor near Kottayam, was stolen

25 Eminent Bengali novelist, Charu Chandra Chakraborty, died in Calcutta after a protracted illness. He was 80

— P.P. Srivastava (46) took over from P.N.Behl as Municipal Commissioner (Delhi). He will also be General Manager of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertrking. Behl stayed as Administrator of the New Delhi Municipal Committee

— A. Subbiah, a well known Tamil scholar and founder Secre-- tary of the International Association of Tamil Research, passed away. He was 84. Mr. Subbiah was the moving spirit behind the successful organisation of five Inteanational Tamil Conferences at Kuala Lumpur (1966), Madras (1968), Paris (1970), Jaffna (1974) and Madurai (1981).

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi opened the first National Conference of Parliamentarians on problems of population and development organised by the Indian Association of Parliamentarians

— Vinod Kumar C.Khahna, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Zaire

— Thousands of Bharatiya Janata Party workers as well as Senior Party leaders including Atal Behari Vajpayee, Vijaya Raje Scindia and L.K. Advani courted arrest in various parts the Countryon the last day of the Party's week-long "loot roko, jail bharo" programme against rising prices. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and Andhra Pradesh were exempted from the programme because of the forthcoming elections.

26 An agreement between India and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was signed in New Delhi, according to which India will give a loan of Rs 10 crores to Vietnam for importing Indian textile fabrics for garments. The loan is repayable in four years with a moratorium of two years and will carry an interest rate of 5 percent per annum.

26 Raampilla "Syed" Appalaswamy died. He was a trade union leader, a philanthropist and a wrestler. He was conferred a title of "Syed" for wrestling.

— The well known painter, Miss Jaya Appasamy, a prominent civil servant, T.S. Murti and former Archaeological Survey Chief B.K. Thapar were awarded the Jawaharlal Nehru fellowships by the Nehru Memorial Fund. The awards were announced on the eve of Mr. Nehru's 17th death anniversary.

— Y.B. Chavan telegraphically submitted his resignation from the primary membership of the Congress (U), its working committee and as the leader of the Parliamentary wing, to its president Devaraj Urs, who accepted the same. Chavan said "I am a Congressman and will continue to be so".

27 Bali Ram Bhagat, Member of Parliament from Bihar and a former Speaker of Lok Sabha, resigned from the primary membership of Congress (U) Party including that of the district pradesh AICC and the Parliamentary Party and announced his intention to Join Congress (I).

— Delhi and Services grapplers made an almost clean sweep of the gold medals and retained the free style and Greco-Roman team titles respectively in the four day National Wrestling Championship, which concluded in Ajmer.

— Nandlal, Rajasthan Minister of State for Mines, was reported to have submitted his resignation to the Chief Minister Jagan Nath Pahadia following a police case against him for marrying his two minor daughters.

— Keshav Dev Malaviya, former Union Minister of Petroleum, died of a terminal liver ailment in New Delhi. Paying tribute to Malaviya, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi described him a courageous freedom fighter active for 60 years. "His entire adult life was spent in the nation's service and his name will go down in history as the man who put India on world oil map," she added.

— India will supply 180,000 tonnes of rice to the Soviet Union under an agreement signed in New Delhi between the Food Corporation of India and Exportkhteb, USSR.

29 Acharya Jagdish Chandra Misra, 80, Congress leader of Deoband, expired at Civil Hospital at Saharanpur. He founded the Congress Committee of Deoband in 1921.

May 29	Baburao Dada Shendte, freedom fighter, died. He was 81.
—	Discussions between the Central Government and the leaders of the movement against "foreigners" in Assam which began on May 18, failed to hammer out an agreed formula and further talks were adjourned till the third week of June.
—	Former Indian cricket team captain, Bishen Singh Bedi, has finally decided to retire from first class cricket. This was confirmed by A. W. Kanmadikar, Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.
—	India will receive about Rs. 80 million as aid from Belgium under the bilateral 1980 credit agreement signed in Brussels. Of this about Rs. 13.3 million will be for meeting debit servicing and the balance will be utilized for import of Belgian capital goods and services.
—	Sridhar Naik, a veteran freedom fighter of erstwhile Hyderabad State, died. A former member of the Constituent Assembly, Mr. Naik was 80. Mr. Naik, who was a barrister, was also the Vice President of the Vivek Vardhini Education Society which runs about 16 educational institutions in Hyderabad.
—	T.A. Pai, former Union Minister, died following a massive heart attack at Manipal. He was 59. He was an expert on finance and banking and entered the Union Cabinet during Indira Gandhi's Government. He was incharge of Railways in 1972, Heavy Industry in 1973 -74 and Heavy Industries and Civil Supplies in 1974-77.
30	A. Satya Narayan, the former Assistant Secretary of the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) and also the former Secretary of the Hyderabad Hockey Association, died. He was 45.
—	Palghat Mani Iyer, the maridangam wizard, died in Cochin. He was 70. The end came coinciding with his 70th birthday.
—	The Posts and Telegraph Department issued a set of four special stamps titled, "Tribes of India". The stamps depiciting a Bhil woman, a Dandami Maria man, a Toda woman and a Khiamngan Naga warrior, were in the denomination of Re. 1 each
—	President N Sanjiva Reddy arrived in Nairobi on a four day State visit to Kenya. He was received by Kenyan President Daniel T. Arap Moi, Vice President and diplomats. On 31st May President Reddy had high level discussions with the Kenyan President Moi in a bid to identify possible areas of mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries.

He offered India's cooperation to Kenya in training its personel in various technical fields.

May 30 S.A. Dange, Chairman of the Communist Party of India, has been unanimously elected General Secretary of the All India Communist Party by its Central Committee, according to an announcement made by Roza Deshpande.

31 The Arunachal Pradesh Lt. Governor, R.N. Haldipur, has resigned his post.

— At least 11 slum dwellers, including six children, lost their lives and 15 were injured when the wall of a tobacco factory at Vile Parle in northwest Bombay collapsed on their huts.

— Chandu Borde was elected Manager of the under 19 Indian cricket team.

— The Chief of Army Staff, Gen. O.P. Malhotra, retired after 40 years of distinguished service.

— The Council of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) issued a "black list" of countries charged with severe violation of trade union rights. India was one of the countries mentioned.

— The former Indian High Commissioner to Zambia, Ravindra Tandon, 48, died in a glider crash in New Delhi. Mr. Tandon, a member of the Delhi Gliding Club, was flying one seater AS-VT GCF glider.

— India boosted its image as a space power by shooting a second satellite into orbit from its own soil within 10 short months using its SLV-3 rocket, which according to officials will soon become the "workhorse" for future space missions. The SLV-3, on its first developmental flight blasted off from Sriharikota, 38 kg. Rohini II satellite (RS-II) into an elliptical orbit 12-1/2 minutes after a spectacular lift-off that was held up for a suspense filled 80 minutes.

— Lt. Gen. V.S. Vaidya took over as GOC-in-C, Eastern Command in succession to Lt. Gen. E.A. Vas, who has retired.

— The Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, described the Akali demand for a separate nation as "an insult to the Sikh Panth". He said that the demand of "Khalistan" is being voiced by a few frustrated and ignorant elements to which an overwhelming majority of Sikhs are strongly opposed.

May 31	Uttar Pradesh retained the Junior Hockey championship with a convincing 2-1 victory over combined Universities in the final at the Shivaji Stadium in Kolhapur.
June 1	Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao took over as Chief of the Army Staff.
—	Lt. Gen S K. Sinha took over as G-O-C, Westren Command.
—	Prof. U.R. Rao, Director of the ISRO Satellite Centre said in Madras that the Rohini Satellite placed in orbit by Satellite Launch Vehincle (SLV-3) on May 31 from Sriharikota Range (SHAR), has completed 25 orbits by today afternoon
2	Five armed young men looted Rs. 1.23 lakhs from the United Bank of India in Greater Kailash (Delhi).
—	Gurdip Singh Bedi, till recently Acting High Commissioner of India to Seychelles, has been appointed Ambassador of India to Mozambique in succession to Omkar Nath Sheopuri.
—	President N Sanjiva Reddy arrived in Lusaka on a five day State visit to Zambia. On 3rd June India and Zambia agreed to set up a joint commission for cooperation in economic development after an hour long meeting at Lusaka between the Zambian President Kenneth D. Kaunda and President Sanjiva Reddy.
—	Radhanath Das, a former Minister of West Bengal, died. He was 74.
—	Rajinder Puri, former Lok Dal General Secretary, joined the Bharatiya Janata Party. A known columnist, Mr. Puri was General Secretary incharge of publicity for the Janata Party during 1977 general elections.
—	Under an agreement signed at Tokyo, the Chandrapur Thermal Power station expansion project in Assam will get a soft loan of 1,400 million yen (Rs. 53.6 million approx.) from Overseas Economic Corporation Fund (OECF) of Japan.
3	Air Chief Marshal I.H. Latif, Chief of the Air Staff, has assumed the Chairmanship of the Chiefs of Staff Committee, consequent on the retirement of the Army Chief, General O.P. Malhotra. The Chairmahship of the Chiefs of Staff Committee rotates according to seniority in appointment among the three service Chiefs and the seniormost Chief of Staff presides over its meetings.

June 3 At least 15 persons were charred to death in a fire which broke out at Ganapavaram village of West Godavari district.

— Dr. D.K. Biswas, Joint Commissioner of Poultry, in the Ministry of Agriculture, died. He was 74.

— India has been re-elected Chairman of the key finance committee of the administrative council of the International Telecommunications Union for the second consecutive term.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of the rupee by 0.57 percent in relation to Pound sterling with immediate effect. The buying and selling retes have been so fixed as to give a middle rate of Rs. 17.50 per pound sterling compared with existing rate of Rs. 17.60.

4 An armed gang raided a Dena Bank branch at Behala on the southern outskirts of Calcutta and looted Rs. 1.9 lakhs at gun point.

— The pound sterling has become cheaper by 30 paise following upvaluation of the rupee by 1.74 percent by the Reserve Bank of India. The RBI has fixed the middle rate of Rs. 17.20 per pound as against Rs. 17.50 hitherto.

— Thirteen people died and many were injured when a cyclonic storm lashed different districts of West Bengal.

— The Zimbabwe Minister for Information and Tourism, Dr. Nathan Shawayarira, arrived in New Delhi on a six day visit.

5 Dr. P.L. Aggarwal, former Chairman of the Steel Authority of India, was the receipent, this year, of the coveted award from the West German Government, known as Bundsdienst-Kreutz-Ersteklasse, which is the German cross for meritorious service. This is the highest civilian award given by Bonn to any foreigner.

— India finished the first day of the Fourth Asian Track and Field meet with one gold, four silver and four bronze medals. The meet was held in Tokyo. The gold winner was Chand Ram in the 20 km walk, Silver in this event was taken by Ranjit Singh. On 9th June India collected two more gold medals and two bronze. The gold medal winners were Geeta Zutshi and Sabir Ali. Bronze medal winners were Satbir Singh and R.S. Bal. On 7th June, Indian athletes won two more gold medals on the concluding day of the fourth Asian Track and Field meet. The gold medal winners were A Rajan and Gopal Saini for 800 metres and 5,000 meters respectively.

June 5 United Nations Development Programme will give $ 1.59 million to India for computer technology development and training programme which envisages the participation of a number of Asian, African and West Asian countries. An agreement about the programme was signed in New Delhi by E. Dessau on behalf of UNDP and Arun Sinha on behalf of Computer Maintenance Corporation (CMC).

6 The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) claimed to have solved the Air India Boeing "Makalu" sabotage case with senior aircraft technician Suresh Pandurang Inamdar, "confessing" his involvement in cutting the control cables of the plane. The CBI said that with this the probe into the attempted sabotage of the plane, earmarked for Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's foreign tour, has been completed and Inamdar will soon be chargesheeted. Inamdar was the sixth suspect to be arrested in the case. The other five have been released on bail.

— President N Sanjiva Reddy returned to New Delhi after an eight day State visit to Kenya and Zambia.

— Two hundred passengers were feared drowned when the 416 Down Mansi-Sahara passenger train was swept into the Kosi river in a cyclonic storm near Khagaria, about 40 km from Patna. It was officially reported in Delhi that the ill-fated train was carrying about 500 passengers. While PTI put the toll at 200, Samachar Bharti reported from Samastipur that about 500 persons were feared drowned.

— Y.B. Chavan, who sent a letter to Congress (I) President Indira Gandhi expressing his desire to join her Party, told a press conference in New Delhi that he cannot say when he would be admitted into Congress (I) and that he would wait for Indira Gandhi's response to his letter. He felt that his entering that Party may start a new trend of more Congress (U) members following his example.

7 The noted Malyalam fiction and travelogue writer, S.K. Pottekkat, won the prestigious Janpith award for 1980. He won the coveted Rupees one lakh award for his novel "Oru Desathinte Katha" (the story of a province). The autobiography novel had also won the Sahitya Akademi award for 1972.

8 Anirudh Prasad, former Bihar Minister of Public Health under the Janata Government, died. He was 52.

10 Foreign Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, arrived in Islamabad on an official visit to Pakistan. During his discussion with his Pakistani counterpart Agha Shahi, controversial issues like the U.S. arms sale to Pakistan, its impact on the security environment and the Afganistan crisis were discussed in detail. The negotiations made a promising start in giving meaningful content to bilateral relations. An Indian proposal to review the air, railway, shipping and postal agreement to make them more relevent to the reality was accepted by Pakistan. The Indian Foreign Secretary, R.D. Sathe, and his Pakistani counterpart Shah Nawaz agreed to have an early expert level meeting to liberalise the agreements. It also agreed that visas to be issued by both countries in future should enable the intending travellers to visit four places instead of three, as at present.

June 8 Information and Broadcasting Minister, Vasant Sathe, and Zimbabwe's Minister for Information and Tourism, Dr. Shamuyarira, signed a protocol aiming at developing closer ties in vaious aspects of mass media and strengthening of cooparation in the sphere of information.

— The President has appointed four new Judges to the Punjab and Haryana High Court. They were Iqbal Singh Tiwana and Madan Mohan Punchhi as Additional Judges for one year with effect from June 11 and October 24, 1981 respectively. Sukhdev Singh Kang and Gopal Chand Mittal were also appointed Additional Judges of the Punjab and Haryana High Court for one year with effect from June 9, 1981.

— The Rohini II Satellite (RS-II) burned up in space after having been up for only nine days and without completing its mission. RS-II, originally designed to live for 300 days, met its premature end due to the unexpectedly low orbit in which it was injected by the SLV-3 rocket on its first development flight.

9 Armed miscreants looted over Rs. 6 lakhs from the Oriental Bank of Commerce branch in the busy market of Ranchi.

— India has been designated to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors for 1981-82 as one of the nine members "most advanced in the technology of atomic energy including the production of source materials". India has been continuously on the Board ever since the inception of the agency.

10 After a two day Consortium meeting at Paris, the World Bank Vice President, David Hopper, and leader of the Indian delegation, R.N. Malhotra told a press conference that the Aid India Consortium has pledged a $ 3,450 million development assistance to India for 1981-82. This was marginally higher than the $ 3,410 million aid made available by the

Consortium last year. The Consortium this time has announced the aid in terms of International Monetary Fund Special Drawing Rights (SDRS) and not in US dollars in order to minimize the impact of dollar fluctuations on the quantum of aid announced.

June 10 The Foreign Ministers of India and Pakistan, P.V. Narasimha Rao and Agha Shahi respectively, ended their official talk in Islamabad with both sides claiming that the two day old discussions marked a forward movement in their bilateral relations. The joint statement issued at the conclusion of talks ruled out the use of force or threat to use force between the two countries. The two sides agreed to reaffirm their adherence to the principles of non-alignment which ruled out participatlon in military pacts. The two sides also agreed that each country has the sovereign right to acquire arms for self defence. Both sides reiterated their policy of using nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes. On 12th June External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, returned to New Delhi after his "useful and satisfactory" five day official visit to Pakistan. He told newsmen at the airport that his talks with the Pakistani leaders were held in a "cordial and frank atmosphere" .

— Manohar Nath Seth, a distinguished member of the business community in India and a pioneer in the field of insurance, died. He was 78. He was Chairman of the Sterling General Insurance Company until it was nationalised and also Chairman of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He was Deputy President of the Assocham in 1969-70 and District Governor of Rotary International.

— Uttar Pradesh Government appointed a single member Commission headed by Justice Gur Sharan Lal Srivastava, a retired Judge of the Allahabad High Court, to inquire into the distur bances in the Aligarh Muslim University Campus on May 12.

— The vereran freedom fighter and journalist, Jogesh Chandra Bose, died after a heart attack.

11 Five Air India employees, arrested in connection with the attempted sabotage of Air India Boeing "Makalu" were discharged by the additional metropolitan magistrate, A.D. Kale. The Deputy Superintendent of the CBI investigation, S.R. Khankhoje requested the court in an application that these persons may be discharged as there was no evidence to prosecute them.

— The Japanese Government announced that its credit this year to India under the Paris Consortium will amount to 28 billion yen or about $140 million at the current rate of exchange. The loan will be used for Thal Vaishet fertilizer factory, lower Mattyr hydropower plant, lower Borpani hydropower plant and Hirakund plants.

June 11 Timber valued at Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 lakhs was reduced to ashes in a fire in the timber market in Indore city's outskirts.

12 Dr. Y. Nayudumma took over as Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University.

— Former Chief Justice of India, P. B. Gajendragadkar, died in Bombay after a prolonged illness. He was 81.

— The Government of India has taken over the British India Corporation, (BIC), Kanpur by acquiring all its privately held shares through a Presidential Ordinance of June 11. The take over of the BIC put the Government in effective control of its two wollen mills, "Lal Imli" and "Dhariwal" as well as its 11 subsidiary and associate companies.

— Noted Marathi poet, Ramchandra Anand Kalele, died. He was 73.

— The President has promulgated an Ordinance amending the Delhi University Act "to empower the Central Government to direct the University to admit to its previleges any institution situated outside India".

13 Eleven persons were feared drowned when a launch carrying 70 persons from Kodavatikalu in Khammam district to Konaru ferry point in Guntur district capsized in the Krishna river.

— Piarey Lal Rikhi, a freedom fighter and trade union leader, died. He was 80.

14 A four member expedition successfully scaled the 21,148 ft. Dharamsura peak near Manali.

— Mrs. Jayanti Patnaik, wife of Orrisa Chief Minister, J.B.P. Patnaik, won the Cuttack Parliamentary seat by a margin of about 50,000 votes in the by-elections held on June 12. She polled 157,877 votes against her closest Lok Dal rival Rabi Ray's 107,048 in a six-cornered contest. All the four independents in the field lost their deposits.

15 Congress (I) won majority of seats in three States. Rajiv Gandhi, Begum Abida Ahmed, Krishna Prakash Tiwari and

Uma Kant Mishra (all Congress (I) candidates) were elected to the Lok Sabha from Amethi, Bareilly, Allahadad and Mirzapur Parliamentary Constituencies, respectively.

June 15 The entire village of Annra in Panota tehsil in Nahan district of Himachal Pradesh was reduced to ashes in a devastating fire rendering 71 families homeless.

— In the Assembly by-elections, the Congress (I) won all seven seats declared in UP, all four declared in Bihar and the lone seat filled in Karnataka. In West Bengal, the Party won only two of the six seats filled, the remaining four having been captured by the CPI(M). U.P. Chief Minister, V.P. Singh, won the Tindwari Assembly seat by a huge margin.

— Normal life and work in most of the Government offices and undertakings, including banks, was disrupted in Assam as the 12 hour Statewide bandh called by the Assam agitators began at 6 a.m. Students abstained from their classes in different parts of the valley in response to the call.

— A special multi-colour stamp was released to highlight the need for conservation of forests.

16 The pound sterling became costlier by 10 paise following devaluation of the rupee by 0.59 percent by the Reserve Bank of India.

— Vempati Pedda Satyam, a famous exponent of Kuchipudi dance and art director in Telugu films, died.

17 Ajit Bag of the CPM defeated his nearest Congress (I) rival Santi Mohan Roy by a margin of 96,549 votes in a four-cornered contest from the Serampore Lok Sabha Constituency in West Bengal.

— At least 20 persons were feared killed when a big chunk of earth caved in at the coal rolling mill of Bakaro steel plant.

— External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narshimha Rao, who was on a four day visit to Bhutan, had an hour long discussion with king Jigme Singhye Wangchuk in Thimpu on matters of mutual interest and international situation particularly that affecting the South East Asian region. On 18th June on his return to New Delhi, P.V. Narshimha Rao disclosed that the Druk Air Corporation of Bhutan will start air services between Paro in Bhutan and Calcutta by this autumn with the assistance of Indian Airlines.

— Vice President of the INTUC, Kanti Mehta, has been re-elected to the ILO governing body for the fourth consecutive term. He stood first among the Asian group having polled 91 votes.

June 18 The Congress (I) retained the Dhanaha Assembly Constituency when its candidate, Ramnagina Yadav, defeated his nearest Lok Dal rival, Narmadeshwar Prasad, by a margin of 4,900 votes. This gave the Congress (I) five of the six Constituencies in Bihar where by-elections were held on June 14. Earlier it had won Parsa Guridih, Sandesh and Bakhtiarpur seats. The only seat where the Congress (I) lost its grip was Hissua in Nawadah district where an independent candidate, Aditya Singh, won the seat.

— President Breznev presented the Order of Lenin to Romesh Chandra, President of the World Peace Council, for his contribution "in the struggle for the cause of peace and security of the people".

— The Union Government constituted a one man commission headed by S.K. Ray, retired Chief Justice of Orissa, to prove what is known as the "Spirit Scandal. The Government notification said the commission will inquire into allegations relating to diversion of large quantities of sugercane molasses from sugar factories in Tamil Nadu for conversion into rectified spirit and potable alcohal resulting in the huge loss of revenue to the State exchequer. It will also go into the illegal movement from June 1979 onwards of huge quantities of rectified spirit from Tamil Nadu to Kerala and matters connected therewith. The commission has been asked to submit its report within six months.

— V. Shantaram, well known film maker, has been re-appointed Chairman of the Children's Film Society for three years.

19 Dr. Subhash Mukherjee, who hit the headlines two years ago as the first test tube baby surgeon in India, died in Calcutta. He was 49.

— In Manipur, an eight member Congress (I) Ministry headed by Rishang Keishing, took office ending 111 days of President's rule in the State. Chief Minister allocated the portfolios among the members of his Ministry on 23rd June.

— India's geostationary experimental communication Satellite Arianne Passenger Payload Experiment (APPLE) goes into orbit, taking the country to the doorsteps of a domestic Satellite communication system. It was shot into orbit at about 6 20 p,m. IST by the Euroaean Space Agency's Arianne rocket from Kourou in French Guiana. Half an hour after the Airanne blast-off, the tracking stations at Sriharikota, Ahmadabad, fiji and Kourou started receiving signals. The 673 kg. Satellite, which is expected to usher in radical changes in India's communication system once it is manoeuvred into a geostationary position, soard into space, alongwith European Space Agency's Weather Satellite, Mateosat and a technological capsule.

June 19 Naval H. Tata, President of the Employers Federation of India, has been re-elected a member of the new governing body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) at Geneva for a three-year term. He is the only Indian employer, who has an uninterrupted record of more than 30 years of having been elected every three years on the (ILO) Governing body.

20 The Elections Commission countermanded the polling in the Garhwal Lok Sabha Constituency in U.P. held on June 12 and ordered a repoll. Announcing this, the Chief Election Commissioner, S.L. Shakdher, told reporters in New Delhi that the induction of police force from Haryana and other States to man the polling booths without the permission of Election Commission is the reason on which polling is countermanded.

— A huge fire reduced to ashes a dozen buildings, including some godowns, in the Dongri area of South Bombay, rendering about 400 people homeless.

— Jagannath Shastri, a member of the UP Vidhan Parishad, died. He was 63.

21 Maj. Prem Gopal Sethi, 50, known lovingly as "Billoo" died. He had dominated the national golf scence for the last 20 years. Winner of six All India titles, numerous Zonal titles and the only Indian to have won his country open championship (in 1965) he was unarguably the best golfer the nation has produced.

— Raja Ram Arya, a Congress (I) member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly, died of heart attack at Patna. He was 54.

— A severe eyclone accompanied by torrential rains lashed different parts of Midnapore for the last 38 hours, collapsing about 2,000 houses and leaving many people marooned.

— Veteran journalist, Dr. Kapila Gopalarao, who had served the "Hindu" for about 30 years, died. He was 71. He also worked as Chief Reporter for Eenadu and later as a correspondent of "Deccan Chronicle."

June 21 World Bank agreed to give a credit of Rs. 64 crores to India to help implement a Rs. 133 crore water supply and sewerage project in Rajasthan.

22 B.S. Danewalia, Adviser to Akali Dal (Talwandi group,) has dissociated himself from the Party following difference with the leadership and formed a new Party called Federal Shiromani Akali Dal. In a press statement issued in Chandigarh, Danewalia said he would however continue to work for the confedaration of Akali Dal factions to obtain greater autonomy for Punjab, as well as for other social and economic objectives.

— A former member of the Rajasthan Assembly, Santosh Singh Kachawaha, died. He was 74.

— A jammed solar panel threatened the APPLE mission after it was set on a "near-geosynoh-ronous" orbit by the successful firing of the spacecraft's apogee boost motor in the morning. This was the first major trouble that occured since the APPLE launch from Kourou in French Guyana on June 19.

— Lok Dal President Charan Singh nominated former UP Chief Minister, Ram Narash Yadav, to the national executive of the Party,

— In Goa, Daman and Diu, Dr. Wilfred De Souza and Anant Naik were sworn-in as Ministers by Lt. Governer Jagmohan. Dr. De Souza has been given Health portfolio in place of Shaikh Aasan Haroon who has been shifted to the Law Ministry. Anant Naik will hold charge of Industry Ministry.

— Air Marshal Dilbagh Sinha, Vice-Chief of Air Staff, has been appointed Chief of the Air Staff with the substantive rank of Air Chief Marshal to succeed I.H. Latif who retires on August 31, according to an official announcement.

— India and the European Economic Community (EEC) signed an agreement at Luxembourg providing India with the "most-favoured nations" status for the next five years. It envisaged industrial cooperation, promoting the transfer of European technology and investment in India. India and EEC will also cooperate in science, technology and energy policy. A joint commission will be established to implement the agreement and solve trade disputes between the two sides.

— Militant trade Union leader, Datta Samant was arrested under the National Security Act. He intended to hold rally of his supporters at Shivaji Park in Bombay to demonstrate his strength.

June 23 S.K. Patil, veteran Congress(I) leader and former Union Minister, died in Bombay of a cardiac arrest. He was 80.

24 At least 15 people were killed and 40 injured, 20 of them critically, when an overcrowed bus skidded into a roadside ditch near Hisua, about 15 km. from Nawadah.

— In Karnataka, the Congress (U) has been derecognised as the main Opposition in both Houses of the Legislature. The Congress (U) which lost the status in the Assembly when nine of its members resigned and joined the ruling Congress (I) was derecognized officially. On 27th June, Congrass(U) regained its position as the recognised Opposition Party in the Legislative Council. This followed a communication from J.K. Mandanna, nominated member saying she would be an associate member of Coneress(U) Legislature Party.

— Indian space scientists succeeded in carrying out major manoeuvres to set the APPLE Spacecraft on its intended course to begin a two-year mission as planned. The Spaceeraft was stabilized to enable it to be put on a 24-hour geosatationary orbit with its antenna pointing towards the earth and its only active solar panel tracking the sun contisnuously.

9 The President has appointed Mahendra. Bhushan Sharma to be an Additional Judge of the Rajasthan High Court for a period of one year from June 25.

— Rajiv Gandhi who has been elected to the Lok Sabha from Amethi Parliamentary Constituency has been nominated to the National Council of the Indian Youth Congress(I) by its President Gulam Nabi Azad, M.P.

— The Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan University, Prof. Iqbal Narain, has submitted his resignation.

25 In a Cabinet reshuffie in Goa, Daman and Diu, Chief Minister Pratap Singh Rane, reallocated the portfolios of some Ministers.

— S. Sahay, Editor of the Statesman, New Delhi, was re-elected Chairman of the United News of India. S. Nihal Singh. Editor-in-Chief of the Indian Express and Capitan P.C. Chauhan of the Indian National group of newspapers, were elected Directors.

June 25 Space scientists at mission control at Sriharikota failed to fly APPLE in the geostationery orbit following the failure of the third hydrazine thruster firing at midnight to raise the spacecraft's orbit to the desired 36,000 km. to position it at 102 degrees east longitude over Sumatra.

26 Chinese Foreign Minister, Huang Hua, arrived in New Delhi on a five day official visit. He was welcomed by the External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao and top officials of the Ministry. On his arrival he said that he is looking forwoard to having "sincere" frank and friendly" discussions with the Indian leaders and to explore together ways for further developing the relations between the two countries. During the talks between the Minister of External Affairs, P.V. Narasimha Rao, and Chinese Foreign Minister, Huang Hua, Narasimha Rao assured Huang Hua that India, despite the border dispute, intended to look to the future. Huang Hua without being rpecific, refered to 'outstanding issues between the two countries and said they sould not be allowed to obstruct development of relations between the two countries" The talks, lasting two hours and ten minutes, were reportedly cordial and extensive, but no substantive issues were covered. On 27th June the two Foreign Ministers had four hour talks. The talks appeared to have provided a basis for starting a meaningful dialogue, including one on the border dispute between the two countries. The visiting Chinese Foreign Minister and Indian Foreign Minister arrived at an agrrement on 28th June, after three days of discussions, to evolve modalities for finding a mutually acceptable solution to the border question. The process will begin in September this year when a team of Indian officials visits China for talks on border issues. The two Foreign Ministers also agreed that there should be intensified exchange of delegations in the sphere of culture, education, science and technology.

— Leading industrialist, Ramdayal Somani, died after a brief illness. He was 82.

27 Chief Minister of Assam, Anwara Taimur, was advised by the Congress(I) high command to resign in view of the withdrawal of support to her Ministry by the 28 member left group in the Legislative Assembly. The High Command felt that in the present situation she has no option but to quit. The left group which withdrew support to Taimur's Ministry comprised CPM, CPI, RCPI, SUCI and RSP. On 28th June' Anwara Taimur's Ministry resigned.

— A private tourist bus carrying some Delhi teachers and their families on a holiday trip fell into the muddy bed of the Kshipra river from an 8 metre high bridge, 5 km. from Ujjain on the Ujjain-Indore road, killing 25 of its occupants on the spot and 3 in hospital.

June 27 Scientists arrested APPLE's eastward drift and sent it westward to its assigned location in geostationary orbit. APPLE Mission Control Centre at Sriharikota said that the spacecraft will take about 20 days to dock at the point 36,000 km in space above Sumatra, Indonesia. During this period, five corrections will be made to put it in its intended final orbit.

— Sixteen persons were killed, 11 on the spot and five later in civil hospital in Kaithal, and 69 others were injured, some of them seriously, when a truck in which they were travelling overturned near Baota village, 60 km from Kurukshetra on the Kaithal-Naerwana road.

28 Nobert Pavanan, a noted Malayalam playwrite, died.

— Ajit Singh, Communist Party of India leader, died at Amritsar.

29 In Madhya Pradesh, the Governor administered the oath of office and secrecy to six new Ministers, six Ministers of State and two Deputy Ministers. With this the State now has 15 Cabinet Ministers, 12 Ministers of State and 3 Deputy Ministers. On 30 June Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Arjun Singh, annouced at a news conference the reallocation of portfolis of his cabinet.

— The Venezuelan Foreign Minister, Dr. J. A. Zambrano, arrived in New Delhi on an official visit. He had discussions with the Indian Prime Minister, President and the Foreign Minister.

30 The President issued a proclamation under Article 356 of the Constitution assuming to himself the function of Assam Government and the powers vested in and exercisable by the Governor. This followed the resignation of the Congress (I) Ministry headed by Anwara Taimur on losing majority support in the Legislative Assembly.

July 1 A highpowered official committee headed by Sikkim Assembly Deputy Speaker, L.B. Basnet, unanimously recommended that Indian citizenship be conferred on all those who are "ordinarily residents" in Sikkim five years before the enforcement of the Indian Constitution in the State. The Constitution was enforced on April 26, 1975 when Sikkim formally merged with India.

— The noted Malayalam writer and freedom fighter, Mrs. C..K. Revathy Amma (91) died at Tillichery. Her work "Shaasrapoornima" had won the Kerala Sahitya Academic award.

July 1 The Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of the rupee by 0.59 per cent in relation to the pound sterling. The buying and selling rates were so Fived as to give a middle rate of Rs. 16.90 per pound sterling compared with earlier middle rate of Rs. 17.

— A special commemorative stamp was issued in honour of Dr. B.C. Roy. Mr. Roy was Chief Minister of West Bengal for 14 years from 1948 to 1962. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna. He was also an outstanding medical practioner.

— S.S. Puri was appointed as the Ambassador to the European Common Market (EEC), Brussels.

— Mr. Susairaj, 31, a former Health Minister in the Pondicherry AIADMK Ministry, was drowned in the sea.

2 The External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, left for Zambia to attend the third meeting of the group of four of the non-aligned on the Iran-Iraq war.

— Five candidates of the ruling Left Front and an Independent were declared elected in the biennial elections for six seats to the Rajya Sabha from West Bengal. They were: Santosh Mitra, Deben Burman, Dwijen Ghose and Arbinda Ghosh (all CPI-M) Makhan Paul (RSP) and Shankar Prasad Mitra, former Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court (Independent).

— Jain Muni Sayam Sagarji Maharaj died near Agar iu Shajapur district of Madhya Pradesh. He was 85.

— The pound setrling has become cheaper by 15 paise following the .evaluation of the rupee by 0.81 percent by the Reserve Bank of India. The RBI has fixed a middle rate of 16.75 per pound against the earlier Rs. 16.90 per pound.

3 Hundreds of "Skinheads" who had come from other parts of London, mostly from working class district of East End, attacked Asian shops, assaulted women and others and set fire to vehicles. Petrol bombs, milk bottels and other missiles were extensively used. Some 200 persons including policemen were injured. The trouble started after coachloads of "Skinheads" carrying swastikas and National Front banners desended on Southall on the pretext of watching a pop group perform in a pub.

— The President has appointed Justice Dhruvakant Chhagenlal Gheewala, Additional Judge of the Gujarat High Court as a Judge of the High Court.

July 4 Andhra Pradesh Chief Miuister, T. Anjiah, took over Home and Prisons portfolios from Prabhakar Reddy following allegations of his links with a gang leader in Hyderabad. Prabhakar Reddy was shifted to Finance and Planning including Sports Councils, Small Saving State Lotteries and Bureau of Economics and Statistics.

— Revolutionary and veteran journalist, Puranchandra Sen, died at his South Calcutta residence. He was 95.

5 V. Natarajan , IAS officer in Orissa cadre, has been appointed Adviser to the Governor of Assam.

7 A 1.4 metre high, cushioned teakwood chair used by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose as head of the Azad Hind Fauz in Burma in 1944 was handed over to Union Education Minister, S.B. Chavan, at a ceremony at the historic Red Fort The chair was brought to Calcutta on July 17, 1980 from Rangoon through the good offices of Amiya Nath Bose, former Indian Ambassador to Burma.

— In a reshuffle of the one year old Uttar Pradesh Ministry, Chief Minister, Vishwanath Pratap Singh, added two Ministers of State-Bachha Pathak and Ram-Naresh Shukla-raising its strengts to 44.

— Dr. Tarapado Basu, doyen of Indian journalists in Britain, died.

— K. C. Sharma, Deputy Director General of All India Radio has been appointed Director General. He succeeds U. L. Barua, who retired in April.

— Oil and Natural Gas Commission (O.N.G.C.) has reached an agreement with a Canadian firm Nowsco for stimulation of sick wells in Gujarat.

— Preetam Chand Sood, veteran journalist and freedom fighter, died,

— Over 126 persons, 40 of them women, died in the worst ever liquor tragedy in Bangalore. About 100 others were still in hospitals in a critical condition. According to reports received on 8th July the death toll in the liquor disaster rose to 234.

— Thirty three passengers died on the spot and 26 were seriously injured in the worst ever bus accident in Mizoram. The bus, carrying 52 passengers from Shillong to Aizawal, Ciptal of Mizoram, skidded of the road and fell into a deep gorge.

July 8	Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh took over the Excise portfolio following the shifting of Excise Ministers. C.
—	Jagannath Rao as Home Minister. Home portfolio was earlier held by K. Prabhakar Reddy who is shifted now to Finance, filling the vacancy caused by the death of G. Rajaram.
—	India voiced its serious concern both in New Delhi and London over the worsening racial situation in Britain with the five day old riots spreading to several new centres. Indian High Commissioner in London called on the Minister of State at the British Home Office, Douglas Hurd, to express concern and press for stern action to check the activities of the Skinheads and other racial gangs on the rampage.
—	Justice M. M. Islmail resigned as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court before his five month leave was due to expire. Meanwhile President Sanjiva Raddy asked Justice P. R. Gokulakrisanan of the Madras High Court to continue to perform the duty of officiating Chief Justice.
9	Nine persons, including Pakistani national Saddique, were found guilty of spying for Pakistan by the Additional Sessions Jugde of Delhi M. K. Chawla. The spying ring was busted by the counterespionage branch of the Delhi police on October 1, 1976.
—	The ruling Congress (I) got a majority of one in the Rajaya Sabha following the victory of all its three candidates in the biennial elections from Gujarat, including Minister of Commerce. Pranab Mukherjee, Talking to newsmen, Pranab Mukherjee, Leader of the Rajya Sabha, said that Congress (I) has now 121 members in the House against the effective strength of 241.
10	Army has been called in to help civil authorities clear the debris of the multi-storey art silk building near Surat, under which about 200 employees were feared lying dead, while 93 bodies were extricated and over 62 others were rescued with injuries.
—	B. G. Momin, a Congress (I) Member of the Assam Legislative Assembly now under animated suspension, died in Diphu, following aheart attack.

July 10 Government announced substantal increase in the prices of petroleum products—53 paise per litre in the price of petrol, 15 paise in kerosene and Rs. 5 on domestic cooking gas—with immediate eflect. The latest price revision has been done in view of the steeply rising costs of greatly expanded oil exploration and development progrmme, said the Government press note.

— P. N. Haldipur, Lt. Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, has been transferred to Pondicherry as Lt. Governor by the President. H.S. Dubey succeeded him in Arunachal Pradesh.

— The Union Government has decided to pay a further instalemeht of DA to its employees with effect from 1 February.

11 The Andhra Pradesh Minister for Panchayatraj, P. A Seshavatrm died.

— The Bank rate has been raised by one precentage point from 9 percent to 10 percent effective from the close of banking business. The Reserve Bank of India has also raised the statutory ratio (S.L.R.) of Banks from 34 percent to 35 percent in two phases—faom 34 to 34.5 percent from September 25 and to 35 from October 25.

— Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Jagannath Pahadia, submitted his resignation to Governor Raghukul Tilak in accordance with the advice of the Congress (I) High Command. The Governor, while accepting the resignation asked Pahadia to continue in offiice till alternative arrangements are made.

— Chief Minister of Punjab, Darbara Singh, left for London to make an on-the-spot study of the situation arising out of racial riots. He will visit Southall, Liverpool, Manchester and other towns where a large number of Asian immigrants and Indian are settled.

— The long-awaited anti-inflationary measures were administered through two Presidential Ordinances and hike in the Bank rate announced by the Reserve Bank. While the Reserve Bank raised the Bank rate from 9 percent to 10 percent two Ordinances were promulgated to revise Compulsory Deposit rate for income beyond Rs. 50,000 a year and stipulated that term deposit with (interest) about Rs. 100,000 was no longer repayable in cash, but only by account payees cheques or drafts.

— Octogenarian freeeom fighthr, Pritam Singh Sargodha, 87, died.

July 11 Thirteen persons were killed and 65 injured when a Himachal Road Transport Corporation bus fell into a gorge near Mandi .

12 Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Arjun Singh, reallocated portfolios among the Council of Ministers giving additional charge to some Ministers and changing the portfolio of other Ministers in his Cabinet.

— Chief Minister of Manipur, Reishang Keishing, announced a reallocation of portfolios among his Council of Ministers in the State. Chief Minister will hold most of the important portfolios, including Home and General Administration. Minister for Electricity, K Radhabinod Singh, has been given additional portfolios of Law and Legislative Affairs. Besides Argiculture, Ngurdiengloen will also hold the charge of Transport while the Department of Community and Rurlal Development has been given to the Forest Minister, Helauddin.

— K.V. Phadke, revolutionary, freedom fighter and founder of child education in India, died. He was 90.

— The veteran Congressman and Gandhian, Mr. Satish Chandra, died. He was 78.

13 Eight of the 12 accused in the Chhabirani rape and murder case were sentenced to life imprisonment by first Additional Session Judge (Cuttack), K.C. Kar. Mrs. Chhabirani Mahapatra, wife of journalist Nabakishore Mahapatra, was fleeing Biridi village with her husband and child to escape the wrath of some people who had threatened them with dire consequences because some of Mr. Mahapatra's despatchers were not palatable to them. She failed to catch up with heg husband and child and was attacked by the pursuers, includind some alleged Congress (I) men. They first raped her an then murdered her.

— Debkumar Chakraborty (52), eminent archaeologist, died of cardiac arrest.

— Following recurrence of group clashes in which three persons died of stab wounds and two in police firing, a dust to dawn curfew was imposed in Hyderabad city. The trouble started when there was objection to drum beating by a religious procession taken out by one community as it was passing by a place of worship of another community in Bada Bazar in the Golkonda area.

— Nine persons, including a Pakistani national Mohammad Saddiq Alias Saddiqui from Lahore, convicted for spying

July 13 last week, were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment ranging from three years to 12 years by the Additional Sessions Judge, M. K. Chawla. Justice Chawla, while sentencing them, observed that spying is the worst and most heinous of crimes as it exposed the nation to danger, disaster and destruction and it is for this reason that the law prescribes severe punishment.

— R. V. Subramaniam, former Power Secretary to the Central Government, joined as one of the two Advisers to the Assam Governor.

14 The dollar has now become costlier ten by paise following the revision by th e Reserve Bank in the exchange rates for purchase and sale of dollar notes by Banks and money changers from tourists and other members of the public. The buying rate has been revised to Rs. 8 50 per dollar and the selling rate to Rs. 8 90 per dollar.

— The Congress (I) candidate, Miss. D. K. Tara Devi won the by election to Karnataka Legislative Council defeating her lone Janata GPsarty rival, Mrs. Savithriba Gundi by 158 votes.

— The dearness allowance formula announced by the Government on the Palekar tribunal's award for journalists and other employees of newspaper establisments gives increased DA to those drawing a basic pay of Rs. 550 and above.

— Kanhu Charan Lenka, Orissa's Minister for Revenue and Excise, tendered his resignation to the Chief Minister J. B. Patnaik.

— Shiv Charan Mathur was sworn-in Chief Minister of Rajasthan at a brief ceremony at Raj Bhawan in Jaipur. The has succeeded Jagannath Pahadia, who has resigned earlier.

15 Chief Minister of Orissa, J. B. Patnaik reshuffled his Cabinet following resignation of Excise Minister, K. C. Lenka and distributing his portfolios between Upendra Dixit and Minister of State, Habibullah Khan.

— The first Additional Sessions Judge, K. C. Kar, who delivered the Judgement in the Chhabirani rape and murder case, was transferred. Mr. Kar had earlier been transferred when the hearing of the case had been going on, but the transfer was deferred till the case ended. Mr. Kar will now join the Cuttak Law Department as Joint Secretary.

July 15 P. S. Chinnadurai was elected President of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha at a Special meeting held in New Delhi.

— Shouting anti Government slogans, hundreds of workers and leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party including Vijay Kumar Malhotra, President of the Delhi Unit of BJP, Madan Lal Khurana, General Secretary, K, N. Sahni former Chief Executive Councillor and Kanwar Lal Gupta, ex M. P, took out a cycle procession through the main thoroughfare of the city. A Party delegation later submitted a memorandum addressed to the Prime Mnister pointing out that inspite of the assurance given by her in July 11 press conference to bring down the prices, it has "put an additional burden of Rs. 1,600 crores on the poor countrymen" by increasing the price of petrol and petroleum products that very night.

16 Foreign Minister of India and the Soviet Unionconcluded their five hour long exhaustive talks in Moscow on a note of mutual satisfaction. The talks centred mainly on international relations with both countries expressing their common concern over the arming of Pakistan by the USA.

— The Government announced that the price of indigneously produced crude, both onshore and offshore had been raised to Rs. 1,182 per metric tonne. The revised price has taken effect from July 11 when the price of various petroleum products were also raised.

— India's first experimental communication satellite APPLE Ariane Passenger Payload experiment) was successfully positioned in its parking slot in space at 102 degrees east longitude. The spacecraft was expected to commence its communication experiments around July 22.

— Twelve persons were killed and 40 injured when a goods train rammed into the 33 Down Indoe-Bilaspur fast passenger train near Bhanwartank station on the South Eastern Railway's Bilaspur division. On 17th and 18th July, 26 more bodies were recovered from under the dabris of smashed bogies. The toll in train accident has risen to 41.

17 External Affairs Minister, P. V. Narsimha Rao, arrived in Stockholm for unofficial talks with Swedish Socialist Democratic Party leaders and United Nation Special Envoy Olaf Plame on recent efforts to end the Gulf war.

— Fifty pesons were drowned when a Rajasthan Roadways bus, carrying about 65 persons, was swept away by strong currents of the swollen Bandi revulet on the Phagi-Jaipur road, 40km from Jaipur.

July 17 India will get Japanese assistance of the order of Rs. 68.50 crore under an agreement signed in New Delhi.

— The Punjab Chief Minister, Darbara Singh, met the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher and discussed with her the welfare of Indian imimigrants for about half an hour. He was accompanied by Dr. V. A. Seyid Muhammad, Indian High Commissioner.

18 The Government announced a steep rise in the import duty on palm oil, rapeseed oil, soyabean oil, sunflower oil and palmolive from 12.5 percent ad valorem to 42.5 percent ad valorem.

— H.N. Bahuguna, Raj Narain and Banarsi Das joined hands to form a new Party to be called the Democratic Socialist Party. The three leaders announced the dissolution of their separate Parties. Raj Narain's Socialist Party, Banarsi Das's Democratic Party and H.N. Bahuguna's Democratic Socialist Front at a news conference after having passed a formal merger resolution at their meeting in New Delhi.

— Ninteen persons were killed and at least 25 injured when 10 bogies of the Ahmedabad bound Delhi Mail derailed near Dangarva village in Mehsana district of Gujarat. On 20th July the death toll raised to 31 with the recovery of some more dead bodies.

— The President has appointed Justice Kashmir Singh Sindhu as a Judage of the Rajasthan High Court.

19 Badri Prasad Poddar, noted industrialist and former President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, died in Calcutta. He was 61.

— Chhuttanlal Mathuria, veteran freedom fighter, died in Jaipur. He was 81. He was the founder member of the first Praja Mandal in 1929.

— Chief Minister of Rajasthan, S.C. Mathur, announced his 18 member three tier Council of Ministers consisting of six Cabinet Ministers (including the Chief Minister), ten Ministers of State and three Deputy Ministers. Most of the Ministers were sowrn-in at a simple ceremony at Raj Bhavan.

— The monsoon has set an all time record of rainfall in Jaipur with more than 59 cm of rain having been recorded in the 48 hours ending today at 8.30 a. m. The city remained cut off form the rest of the country by rail, road and air in its worst deluge in the 250 years history.

Rain claimed 25 lives and most parts of the pink City were under five to six feet of water.

July I9 N. Keshava, former member of Parliament died. He was 78.

— A noted vedic scholar, Narayana Ganapati, died. He was 80.

20 The conviction of Tulmohan Ram, former Congress M.P from Bihar in the Pondicherry scandal case for taking gratification to influence a public servant and exercising personal influence with a public servant, has beeen upheld by Justice Mangi Lal Jain of the Delhi High Court. Justice Jain ordered that Tulmohan Ram be relcased on executing a bond of good conduct for two years. He however, acquitted the others excused in the case, Yogendra Jha, a former MP and Gurbachan Singh, a Delhi businessman.

— Dr. Baidyanath Mishra has been appointed Vice Chancellor of the Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology (OUA).

— Fifteen persons, including 12 women, were drowned when a boat in which they were crossing the Cauvery near Malasi, about 10 km from Tiruchengodu, capsized.

— G. N. Shah, who earned the sobriquet of the "Financial Wizard" of the Hindi film industry, died. He was 46. Mr. Shah was a financial adviser associated with a number of Hindi films. He was also an incame tax adviser to top film personalities.

— Kariaypa Neelappa Yaresemi, a freedom fighter and close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, died. He was 71.

— Two more Ministers of State (Rajasthan), Narendra Singh Bhati and Sheesh Ram Ola were sworn-in raising the strength of the Rajasthan Ministry to 19.

— V. C. Khanna, Joint Director in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed Ambassador to Cuba.

21 Bishnu Mukherji, better known by the pseudonym Bishnu Sharma, a noted author of children's literature in Bengali died. He was 62. Author of about 30 childeren's books, Bishnu Sharma was awarded the 1978 Sishir Sariti Purasekar for his contribution to Bengali literature.

July 22 APPLE, India's first experimental communication satellite, successfully began its experiments in comm unication technology heralding a new revolution in the country's telecommunication system.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced an upward revision of the rupee by 0.59 percent in relation to the pound sterling. The spot buying and selling rates were fixed to give a middle rate of Rs. 16.65 per pound sterling compared to the earlier middle rate of Rs. 16.75.

— Government of India announced the appointment of Parkash Mehrotra, M. P. and General Secretary of the Congress (I) Parliamentary Party as the new Governor of Assam and Meghalaya and S. M. H. Burney, Home Secretary, due to retire by the end of August, 1981,as the Governor of Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi held informal talks with Nauru's President Hammer Re Roburt, who was in New Delhi on a day's private visit. Earlier Petroleum and Chemicals Minister, P. C. Sethi, called on the visiting President and had discussions with him on bilateral matters.

23 V. K. Roy, former Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh, took over as Principal Secretary to the President. He succeeded V. K. Dhar, who had now been appointed Additional Secretary.

— Chief Election Commissioner, S. L. Shakdher, ruled that the group led by Indira Gandhi and known by the name of Indian National Congress (I) is the real Congress. It will here after be known as the Indian National Congress, a recognised National Party for the purpose of the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotoment) order, 1968. The symbol "hand" shall continue to be reserved symbol for that Party unless it applies for the revival of the frozen symbol "Calf and Cow," the Commissioner ruled.

— Two passengers died on the spot and 26 were injured when four of the 15 bogies of the Patna-Gaya passenger train derailed while apporaching a platform at the Patna Station. One of the injured died later in the hospital.

24 Assam Government extended provisions of the Disturbed Areas Act to cover oil pipelines and oil installations in the State. The provisions of the Act will be valid for two months.

July 24 Employees of Central and State Governments, banks and private establishments in Assam observed an "anti repression day" demanding withdrawal of all repressive measures on the employees for participating in the foreign nationals movement.

— Air Vice Marshal, A. S. Bakshi (retired) has been appointed a member of the Union Public Service Commission.

— A member of the Unionist Movement in pre-partition Punjab, Sohan Lal, died. He was 73.

— V. K. Rao (ICS retired) was appointed Principal Secretary to the President.

— Widespread heavy rains and flood waters of swollen rivers have so far hit a population of about five million spread over 5,504 villages in 19 districts of Uttar Pradesh.

26 The Government made import of edible oil on private trade account almost uneconomical by steeply increasing the customs levy on it. The measure, taken through an Ordinance promulgated by the President, fixed the effective rate of duty at 150 per cent ad valorem.

— The World Sikh Religious Convention was held in the Golden Temple at Amritsar. The Convention presided over by Sant Harcharan Singh Longowal, President Shiromani Akali Dal, adopted nine resolutions condemning Central Government's "evil" designs to control Sikh Gurudwaras by withdrawing the rights of the Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee to send pilgrims jathas to Gurudwaras in Pakistan and by having got elected its own "stooge" as President of the Delhi Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee discarding all principles of fairness and domocracy. The rosolutions reiterated their support for the Anandpur Sahib resoulution of 1973 demanding sovereignty for the Sikhs which did not mean secession from the country, expresed deep pain at the racial riots in England and asked from the British Government to take adequate steps to prevent such riots. The attendance at the conference was estimated between 50,000 and 100,000.

27 Former Deputy Minister of Gujarat, Trikamlal J. Patel, died in Ahmednagar after a brief illness. He was 70.

— The Government assumed sweeping powers to prohibit strikes in essential services under an Ordinance issued today. Any person resorting to an illegal strike will be liable to be punished with imprisonment or fine. He will also be liable for discipianry action including dismissal. The offence under the Ordinance are cognisable and summarily triable. The Ordinace defines railways, airports, banks, production and refining of petroleum, supply and distribution of petrol and petroleum products, public conservancy, sanitation and hospitals under the control of the Central Government and defence undertakings as essential services. It empowered the Centre to declare as an essential service any service connected with matters with respect to which Parliament has the power to make laws.

July 27 The over all flood situation deteriorated in U. P. with the Ghagra crossing the danger mark for the third time this season and the sounding of the general alert in Bulandshahr and Ballia district following a rise in the Ganga. In Rajasthan which was still recovering from the havoc of the century's worst floods following heavy rains last week, Slkar district and 10 villages in Bharatpur district came in the grip of floods in the wake of fresh rain. With this 53,000 families in 650 villages of seven districts have been affected. 96 people were officially confirmed to have died and another 218 were reported missing. In Bihar more than 3.7 million people in nine districts have been affected by floods.

— The President N. Sanjiva Reddy left for London on a five days official visit during which he will attend the wedding of Prince Charles. He returned on August 1.

— Ramdas Narayan Haldipur was sworn-in Lt. Governor of Pondicherry. He suceeeded R. K. Vyas, who died three months ago.

— Ratnakanth Ramnathkar, a leading vocalist and musician, died. He was 73.

— Wing Commander K. L. Khanna, well known sportsman and administrator, died. He was Manager of the Indian contingent to the Commenwealth Games at Cardiff in 1958 and was made a member of the M. C. C. that year.

28 Commerce Minister, Pranab Mukherjee and Argentina's Minister of Commerce and Maritime, Carlos Garca Martinee, signed the first trade agreement providing for the most favourable bilateral conditions for import and export of commodities.

July 28 The former Chief Minister of Nagaland and leader of the erstwhile United Democratic Front, Vizol, presented to the Chief Election Commissioner, two resolutions passed by UDF general meeting modifying the Party's name. It would now be known as Naga National Democratic Party.

— The militant trade union leader and Independent MLA, Dr. Datta Samant, was rearrested under the National Security Act witnin minutes of his release from the Arthur Road prison in Central Bombay, where he had beeen lodged after being detained under the same Act earlier.

— The Union Cabinet rejected the findings of the Maruti Commission, headed by Justice A. C. Gupta, on the grounds that these were based on evidence furnished by witnesses who had deposed under pressure.

29 India and Argentina have signed their first trade agreement under which they will grant each others the most favoured treatment in imports and exports to each others ships.

— Indian Airlines fare will go up by 5 percent from August 1. A spokesman of IA said the fuel surcharge will also be increased from that date from 25 percent to 32 percent.

30 A noted Bharata Natyam vidwan and founder of the renowned Raja Rajeshwari Bharata Natya Kala Mandir, T.P. Kuppiah Pillai, died in Bombay. The fellowship of the Sangeet Natak Akademy was awarded to him last year.

31 The Indo-US talks on the supply of enriched uranium for the Tarapur atomic power station have failed to resolve the differences between the two countries.

— Noted journalist and former Assistant editor of Mahashtra Times, M.P. Shikhare, died. Mr. Shikhare, 65, had been connected with the Radical Democratic Party for several years.

— The sun was blocked from view by the moon's shadow in an eclipse, which was partial over most parts of the world and in India.

— The well-known Gujarati writer and critic Aniruddh Brahm Bhatt, died of blood cancer. He was 45.

August 1 Dr. P.K. Sethi, a 54 year old doctor from Jaipur, who had spent the past five years developing artificial legs for thousands of peasant amputees, has been selected to receive the 1981 Magasaysay award for community leadership.

August 1 The flood situation in Assam and U.P. worsened and authorities sought the assistance of troops in the Telpain area of Dibrugarh district for rescue and relief operations. The flooded Brahmaputra and the Buridihing have engulfed about 110 villages in Dibrugarh district rendering thousands homeless. In U.P. 500 more villages with a population of 300,000 people faced the seasonal fury of the Ghagra, Ganga, Yamuna, Sharda and Burhigandak. According to reports received on 2nd August floods and rains in U.P., and Assam have so far taken a toll of 194 lives. Of these, 175 deaths occured in U.P. and 19 in Assam. Over 56,000 houses in U.P. have either been destroyed or damaged by floods and rains and more than 500 cattle have perished. According to reports received on 14th August, the areas struggling worst against the widening despredations of the flooded rivers were the eastern districts of U.P., where about 1,500 more villages were flooded by the turbulent Ghaghra and its tributries. In Bihar, the waters of surging Gandak breached the bank of the Triveni canal system in the Eastern Champaran district at some 30 points. The flood situation in Assam further aggravated as the rivers continue to rise following rains in the catachment areas.

— Former Chairman of Indian Airlines, K.T. Satarawala, has been appointed a member of the Minorities Commission.

2 The informal talks between agitation leaders of Assam and Central officials on the foreign nationals issue began in Shillong. The All Assam Students Union and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad, which had taken a decision at a joint meeting to call for a bandh and a protest day in the second week of August, deferred its formal announcement in view of the talks which were described as "cordial and smooth." At the conclusion of the talks in Shilling on August 3, the Government of India has indicated its willingness to advance the cut of year from the proposed 1967 to 1966 to facilitate a settlement of the foreign nationals issue in the State. The talks were intended to convince the Assam movement leaders of the need to take a humanitarian view of the people who fled the former East Pakistan in the wake of 1964-65 communal holocaust there. The movement leaders have been insisting on detection, deletion and distribution in other States of all post 1960 entrants from East Pakistan and the Government has been pressing for the retention of all pre 1977 bonafide refugees.

3 Eleven persons were killed and one was seriously injured when a mass of earth and boulders rolled down the Gandhi Hill in Vijaywada.

August 3 The Reserve Bank of India revalued the rupee by 0.90 percent in relation to the pound sterling. The spot buying and selling rates were so fixed as to give a middle rate of Rs. 16.50 per pound sterling compared to the earlier middle rate of Rs. 16.65.

4 Australian Prime Minister Fraser visited India for about 12 hours on his way back to Australia from London. During talks with Prime Minister Indra Gandhi, the leaders agreed that liberalization of trade is an important part of the development process. The main subjects discussed between the two leaders related to the North-South discussion to be held at Melbourn and Africa with particular reference to Namibia.

— Dr. Parsuram Mishra, former Vice Chancellor of Utkal and Sambalpur Universities, died He was 88.

— Karnataka Chief Minister, R. Gundu Rao, announced the resignation of Planning and Wakfs Minister, C. M. Ibrahim and said that the same has been accepted by the Governor.

— More than 150 huts of a harijan colony in Dolar village in South Arcot district of Tamil Nadu were destroyed when a mob of 400 caste Hindus set them onfier.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced the revaluation of the rupee by 0.61 percent in relation to the pound sterling. On 3rd August the Bank had announced a 0.90 per cent rise in value of the rupee. The spot buying and selling rates were so fixed as to give a middle rate of Rs. 16.40 per pound sterling as compared to the earlier middle rate of Rs. 16.50.

— Twenty one persons were killed when a Himachal Roadways bus plunged into a deep khud near Bhakra dam. While 18 persons died on the spot three others succumbed to injuries in the hospital.

— Union Labour Minlster, N. D. Tiwari, opened the two day State Labour Ministers conference at New Delhi, He said that the country had to be vigilant in the sphere of industrial relations. All possible efforts should be made to get industrial disputes settled through negotiations and effective use of machinery so elaboratey built up under the labour and industrial relations laws. All the Labour Ministers except from West Bengal and Kerala, endorsed the Minister's view that the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, to be used as a last resort to deal with any extreme situation. had become necessary. For West Bengal, K. P. Ghosh, described the measure as anti-working class, drastic and smacking of emergency period. Kerala Labour Minister said that the Ordinance cannot obtain its objective.

August 4 V. Ramamurthy, senior financial journalist, died. He was 62.

5 Additional District Judge of Patna sentenced to life imprisonment fifty person accused in the Pipra Harijan atrocities case. The accused were found guilty of the brutal killing of 14 Harijans including six children and four women, at Pipra near Patna in February, 1980.

— The Congress (U) formally splited and the breakaway group removed Devaraj Urs and installed Jagjivan Ram in his place. Devaraj Urs on the other hand suspended Jagivan Ram immediately on learning that the later, has inaugurated the meeting called by the rebel group. While suspending all other AICC (U) members attending the meeting, Devaraj Urs declared that AICC meeting was unauthorised.

— Indian Space Research Organisotion (ISRO) announced that Rohini-I, the first Indian Satellite launched from Indian soil with the country's own launch vehicle SLV-3, re-entered the earth and burnt out on July 24 after being in orbit for over a year.

— K.P.S. Memon, Ambassador to Egypt, has been appointed Ambassador to Japan. He succeeded V.K. Ahuja, who is now Ambassadar to Soviet Union,

— S.S. Puri has been appointed Ambassador to Belguim in succession to P.K. Dave. He has also been concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Luxembourg.

6 Bhupesh Gupta, M.P., veteran Communist leader and doyen of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, died in Moscow after a massive heart attack. He had been operated upon for the removal of a malignant growth from the stomach nine days ago and was recovering till yesterday after the first heart attack. He was 66 and a bachelor. He had been a member of the Rajya Sabha from West Bengal uninterruptedly since 1952.

— D. Raja Gopala Rao, veteran weightlifter, died of a heart attack. Rao, (65) also acted in a couple of Telugu pictures. He represented India at the 1948 (London), 1952 (Helsinki) and 1956(Melbourne) Olympics. He won the Asian heavy weight championship in 1948.

August 6 The findings of the departmental inquiry by the Inspector of Accidents, H.B. Singh. after nearly a year-long investigation in to the circumstance leading to the crashing of the Pitts S-2A aircraft, was accepted by the Government. The report said that an unintentional spin and delay in intiation of recovery action was the probable cause of the crash of Pitts aircraft in which Sanjay Gandhi and his co-pilot Subhash Saxena were killed on June 23 last year.

— The Nagaland Peace Council Chairman, Rev. Longri AO, died of a massive heart attack. He was 78.

— A prominent leader of the Jain community and former Sherriff of Bombay, Shadilal Jain, 74. died, Mr. Jain, who was leading industrialist, was President of the Cutlery Merchants Association and the General Secretary of the Bharat Jain Mahamandal.

— V.K.B. Pillai, ICS (retd), former Health Secretary, Government of India, died. He was 80.

7 The Government has decided against a change in the present policy in regard to 22 carat gold jewellary. It has consequently rejected the recommendations of the Gold Policy Review Committee which had suggested reintroduction of 18 or 14 carat gold jewellery by stages to curb gold smuggling into India, estimated at Rs. 900 crores a year. The Committee headed by I.G. Patel, then the Governor of Reserve Bank, was appointed by the Janata Government in November 1978 to review the Government's gold policy and make suitable recommendations.

— Mohan Lal Sukhadia, former Chief Minister of Rajasthan was appointed Governor of West Bengal in succession to T. N. Singh.

— An Indian Firm, the Engineering Construction Corporation Ltd. (ECCL), has secured a contract valued at Rs. 40 crore for a building complex which will house the police headquarters in Baghdad.

8 In a minor reshuffle of the Union Cabinet, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi allocated the Industry Ministry to N. D. Tewari, who had been shifted from Planning. He will also continue to hold the portfolio of Labour in addition. The Planning Ministry has been assigned to S. B. Chavan, till recently the Education Minister. Dr. Charanjit Chanana, in charge of the Industry Ministry

as Minister of State will continue to hold the same portfolio and Sheila Kaul, Minister of State for Education and Culture will now look after the Ministry independently until permanent arrangement is made.

August 8 President Sanjiva Reddy removed the Rajasthan Governor, Raghukul Tilak, from office with immediate effect and appointed Justice H. D. Sharma, Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court, to discharge the functions of the Governor. Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Aminal-din Ahmed Khan was shifted to Punjab to succeed Jaisukhlal Hathi, who was retiring. A. N. Banerjee. I. C. S. (retd.) has been appointed Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

9 An agreement for a Government to Government credit of Rs. 2.5 crore for promoting low cost housing in Seychelles was signed in Victorica soon after Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived there . The remaining Rs. 5 crore would be given by the Industrial Development Bank of India for various projects. Indira Gandhi also announced the gift of two Chetak helicopters to Seychelles to assist that country in the development of inter-island communications.

— Gour Kishore Ghosh, 58, a Bengali journalist and author, won the 1981 Ramon Magasaysay Award for journalistic literature and creative communication arts for his courage in defence of individual and press freedom.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi received a warm welcome on her arrival in Nairobi on a four days visit to Kenya, the first by an Indian Prime Minister. Indian Prime Minster and the Kenyan President had hour-long discussion on 10th August. They expressed their firm determination to oppose the moves of the super powers to militarise the Indian Ocean and vow to keep it as an ocean of peace. They also pledged to do their utmost to secure the early liberation of Namibia from the "strangle hold of South Africa" and also to end the racist regime in that country. The discussion was also marked by a teaffirmation of the two leader's desire to expand and deepen cooperation, between India and Kenya in economic, industrial, scientific and technological fields.

— Saudi Arabia resumed crude oil supplies to India on a Government basis. The first shipment on this basis signed recently between the Indian Oil Corporation and Saudi Government has already arrived. Under the agreement valid till May, 1982, Saudi Arabia will supply one lakh tonnes of crude per month. The agreement is likely to be renewed.

August 9 Swami Parmanand Sahib, a distinguished Sindhi Saint died,

10 All Assam Students Union renewed its appeal to the people and students to observe "protest day" on August 11 and a 24-hours "Assam bandh" on August 14 in protest against the "failure" of the Centre to resume talks within ten days of promulgation of the Maintenance of Essentsal Service Ordinance.

— The Indian Film "Chakra" has won the "Goldon Leopard" in London as the best film shown at the 34 the Locarno film festival.

— L. R. Suneja, renowed banker, author-cum--educationist, died after heart attack. He was 81. Mr. Suneja retired as Assistant General Manager, United Commercial Bank in 1969, after more than 48 years in the banking industry.

— The Government of Libya has awarded a $ 15 million contract to Turnkey Engineering Corporation, a division of the Cochin based Khader's International Construction Ltd.., for the construction of 12 mini-hospitals near Tripoli.

— Prakash Mehrotra assumed office as the Governor of Assam succeeding L. P. Singh who retired after an eight year term.

11 Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Shiv Charan Mathur, changed the departments of his two Ministers. The Integrated Rural Development and Special Organisation department has now been given to Agriculture Minister, Smt. Kamla. Previously these two departments were with Panchayat Raj Minister, Sheeshram Ola, who will now look after the new department for National Rural Employment.

— Fourteen labourers, all woman, died when a country boat capsized in the flooded Gerra nullah. They were going from Era village to Ahori, a tehsil town in Chandpur district.

— The Ghagra and Rapti caused havoc in more villages in U.P. as flood waters breached the tenuous remains of the Turtipur-Srinagar bund in a village in Ballia district. The fierce Ghagra cut a 15 metre wide breach in the bund at Chandpur village last night. Floods, heavy rains and landslides have taken a toll of 201 lives in the State. The floods have affected a population of nearly eight million in over 10,000 villages and 31 districts. Over 58,000 houses have been damaged and standing crops on 5.1 lakh hectares of land destroyed.

August 11 An Ordinance repealing the Prohibition Act and reviving the old Excise Act, was issued by the Rajasthan Governor following Rajasthan Cabinet's decision to scrap total prohibition in the State.

12 About 41 persons were killed in a road tragedy when a bus of the U.P. State Road Transport Corporation fell into a 500 feet deep khud near Jhoolaghat in Pithortagarh district.

— The Oil and Natural Gas Commission signed a four-year contract with the French oil firm, Compagnie Francaise des Petroles (CFP) for development and exploitation of oil reserves of Bombay High and its vicinity. The earlier contract with the French firm had expired in April this year. The new one was aimed at boosting the Bombay High yield from its current level of 8.5 million tonnes a year to 19 millon tonnes in 1984-85. There will be no sharing of the oil with the CFP which will be paid actual costs and fees for the transfer of techonology and for the technical service rendered by it. The payment of fees will not be related to production of crude from the area.

— Navtej Singh (56), a noted Punjabi writer, died at Guru Tegh Bahadur hospital in Amritsar. He was suffering from tongue cancer.

— S.M. H. Burney was sworn-in as the Governor of Manipur.

— Vice President, M. Hidayatullah, in his capacity as Chairman of the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation Advisory Board announced the Jamnalal Bajaj awards for 1981. A 67 year old freedom fighter from Gauhati, Amalprabha Das, a social worker from Cuttack, Ramdevi Gopaabandhu Choudhri and A.M.M Murugappa Chettair Research Centre in Madras headed by Dr. C.V. Seshadri were the recipients of these awards. Amalprabha Das has received the award for her outstanding contribution in the field of constructive work. The citation for Ramdevi G. Choudhri mentioned her outstanding contribution to the welfare and uplift of women and children. The Murugappa Chettiar Research Centre has been selected for the award for its application of science and technology for rural development. The awards consist ofcitation, a medal and a prize of Rs. 1 lakh each,

13 Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, Arjun Singh and Madhav Singh Soalnki, respectively, signed

an agreement in Sidhi for setting up jointly two super thermal power projects in the arid colliery region of eastern Madhya Pradesh. The proposed power projects will be located at the coal mine pit-heads in Sidhi and Raigarh district.

August 13 External Affairs Minister, P. V. Narsimha Rao, inaugurated the Kenya-Indian Friendship Association. It will be led by Kenyan Labour Minister, Titus Mbathi, as Chairman .

— Kesho Ram Sabharwal, a freedom fighter, who spent several years in exile and one of the oldest journalist of Capital (Delhi), died. Popularly known as "General" Sabharwal, 87, he was ailing for a long time.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi formally dedicated at the Space Application Centre in Ahmedabad the APPLE communication Satelite to the nation and described it as a symbol of self-reliance and growing cooperation with the European Space Organisation. The historic function, telecast live via APPLE to viewers in Delhi, Madras, Pune, Bombay, Calcutta, Bangalore and Mussoorie, marked the launching of the utilization project of APPLE which was put in the geostationary orbit on July 16.

14 Alfred W. B. Waz, Ambassador of India to Colombia has been concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Ecuador with residence in Bogota.

— Business establishments remained closed and private vehicles were off the road in almost all the district headquaters towns of the Brahmaputra valley of Assam since 7 p. m. in response to a 24 hours State wide bandh called by the agitators. Meanwhile Central Government, by a special order, put a ban on strikes in certain essential services in the State falling under the central sector under the relevent provisions of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance. These Services included post and telegraphs, telephones, railways, oil fields refineries, gas service, defence insatllations and establishments, banks and other services listed in section 2 (1) of the Ordinance. The order was to remain in force for six months.

— Dr. Indu Prakash Singh, Deputy High Commissioner in the High Commission of India in Great Britain, has been appointed Ambassador to Spain in succession to S.S.Alirajpur.

— Indra Narain Gurtu, freedom fighter and journalist, died at the age of 69. Mr. Gurtu worked as editor of Navyug.

— Justice D.A. Desai and Justice R.B. Misra of the Supreme Court dismissed the two petitions challenging the

Election Commission's order derecognising the Congress (U) and declaring the Congress (I) as the real Indian National Congress.

August 14 The Maharashtra Government and private sector Dubai Transport Company signed a protocoal for two joint projects involving an outlay of Rs. I20 crores to improve transport conditions in Bombay.

— The Union Government signed in New Delhi a formal agreement with Burmah Oil Company of Britain for the take-over of its 50 percent shares in Oil India, Assam Oil Co. and Burma Oil Co. (India Trading Ltd.). An amount of Rs. 21.56 crores will be paid as compensation for the take-over of these companies by the Government as per the agreement.

15 Former Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Raja Suryanarayana Raju died at his native place, Tangedu. He was 78. He had played a leading role in the separate Andhra agitation. He later left the Congress and joined the Janata Party.

— The Indian High Comission in Bangla Desh faced a demonstration in the mounting anti-India campaign on the issues of 'Talapatty and Dahagram'. The domonstration, planned to coincide with India's Independence Day, was sponsored by the 17-Party National Front of some right, extreme left wing and Islamic Groups. Shouting assorted slogans against what was called "Indian expansionism," the processionists included former President Khondkar Mushtaque Ahmad and Ataur Rahman Khan, a former Chief Minister of the then East Pakistan.

— Noted Bengali writer and novelist, Hirendra Narayan Mukherjee, died. He was 77.

— The twenty four hour Assam bandh called by the All Assam Students Union and the Gana Sangram Parishad, which ended this evening, disrupted normal life in most places in the Brahmaputra valley and was partial in the oil town of Digboi and the coal town of Margherita in Upper Assam. The call was generally ignored in Dakaba, Hojai and Lanka in Nowgong district A bomb explosion damaged the rail track at Pandu. Picketeers held up two local trains, necessitating police intervention and stray cases of stone throwing were reported.

16 Around 100 splinters Congress (U) members (Jagjivan Ram group) were arrested and several others injured in a clash with the police as they tried to break into the Prime Minister's

residence Those arrested included Suresh Ram, son of Party President Jagjivan Ram, Mazhar Hussain, Joint Secretary and B.S Bal, President Punjab Congress (U) Committee. The rival Congress (U) members were protesting against the recent Ordinance, banning strike.

August 16 Jaikumar Singh, a Lok Dal member of the Legislature Assembly, Bihar, died. He was 65.

— The latest reports monitored by the Central Water Commission from 11 flood affected States put the loss of human lives at 432 and estimated the total damage to crops, houses, public utilities at Rs. 103 crores. According to reports 10.8 million people have been affected. The total area affected by floods was 1.9 million hectares.

— The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission has been reconstituted by the Government with A. Rajamallu, Congress (I) member of Lok Sabha from Andhra Pradesh, as Chairman and Hokishe Sema, former Chief Minister of Nagaland and Shishir Kumar, Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as members.

— Three Ministers of U.P resigned from the Ministry and their resignations were accepted by the Governor.

17 A division bench of the Bombay High Court ordered the "immediate" release of the militant trade union leader, Dr. Datta Samant, MLA, who was rearrested on July 28 under the National Security Act (NSA). In its judgement, the court observed that the "grounds and material produced before us are not sufficient for detention." The first detention of Dr. Datta Samant under NSA was struck down by another Bench of Bombay High Court on July 28, this year

— Dr. Baijnath Sharma, Head of the Department of History, Saugar University, has been appointed Vice Chancellor of the Bhopal University.

— The first major demonstration against the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance by workers in the Capital and suburban towns was held at the Boat Club in New Delhi. A delegation of six trade unions presented a memorandum to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Balram Jakhar, which described the Ordinance as distardly attack on "the fundamental rights of working class". The call for rally was given by the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC), Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC-Darga group), Hind Mazdoor Sangh (HMS), and the United Trade Union

Congress (UTUC) The workers also observed the "Black Day".

August 17 Indra Prakash, a member of the Hindu Mahasabha Working Committee, died. He was 78. A noted journalist and author of several books, Mr Prakash had worked for the Mahasabha for 50 years.

— K.C. Pant and Mohammad Shafi Qureshi, former Union Minister of State and Congress(U) General Secretaries, respectively resigned from the Congress(U). Pant, a Rajya Sabha member, also resigned from the Congress(U) Parliamentary Party. Neither K.C. Pant nor Mohammed Shafi Qureshi has given any reason for leaving the Party in their resignation letters sent to the General Secretary of the Party.

— Rajiv Gandhi, elected to Lok Sabha from Amethi Constituency in U P., was sworn-in as a Member of the House. Others who were sworn-in were: Jayanti Patnaik (Cuttack), Abida Ahmad (Bareilly), Uma Kant (Mirzapur); K.P. Tiwari (Allahabad), all Congress(I) and Ajit Beg (Serampare), a CPI (M) nominee. The strength of Congress (I) has now risen to 352 in the 543 member House. There were still 11 vacancises.

— Twenty nine persons were killed and 23 injured seriously when a private bus skided and fell 500 feet into the Liddhar nullah near Pahalgam, 90 km. from Srinagar.

— Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, T.P. Singh, expanded his Ministry with the induction of one Cabinet Minister, four Ministers of State and one Deputy Minister, raising the strength of the three-tier Ministry to 49.

18 Brahmanand, former Private Secretary to Jay Parkash Narayan, died. He was 51.

— The Lok Sabha passed the Export Import Bank of India Bill. Finance Minister, R. Venkataraman, expressed his confidence that when it starts functioning, the Bank would turn out to be one of the instruments to improve the economy of the country.

— M.P. Thakkar and Sambhu Chandra Ghose were appointed Chief Justices of the Gujarat and Calcutta High Court respectively.

— Rajya Sabha Chairman, M. Hidayatullah, accepted the resignation of Prakash Mehrotra (Congress-I) from the House consequent upon his appointment as Governor of Assam and Meghalaya.

August 18 S.M. Mohammed Sheriff, a former Muslim League Member of Lok Sabha, died of heart attack. He had been a member of the House for two consequtive terms till 1977.

— Rajya Sabha passed the Special Courts (Repeal) Bill seeking to repeal the Special Courts Act enacted during the Janata regime.

19 At least 21 persons were killed and more than 60 injured, 50 seriously, when a Moreh bound bus carrying them overturned at Sinam Lamkhai in Tengnoupal district, about 45 km. from Imphal.

— Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, T. Anjiah, expanded his cabinet by appointing two new Ministers, C. Venkata Rao and N.S. Reddi and elevating five Ministers of State, C. Rajanarasimha, G. Ramaswami, M.T. Dass, S.P. Venkata Rao and M.N. Vijalakshmi Devi to the Cabinet rank and 9 Ministers of State.

— The Rajya Sabha passed a Bill providing for the establishment of a permanant bench of the Bombay High Court at Panaji for the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu. Lok Sabha has already approved the Bill.

20 Six persons were killed and several injured, 11 of them seriously, when the 6 Dn Narangi-Pandu Shuttle collided with the 7 Up Tinsukhia Mail which was entering Gauhati railway station.

21 Acharya Kaksaheb Kalelkar, one of the oldest disciple of Mahatma Gandhi, died. He was 96. Philosopher, educationist and former Vice Chancellor of Gujarat Vidyapith, he was a linguist who had written 120 books in various languages. He was a Member of Rajya Sabha for 12 years and an authority on Rabindranath Tagore.

— Flight Lt. S.K. Rampal, the sole occupant of an Indian Air Force plane, was killed in an air crash near Chandigarh.

— Kishore Bazaz, a journalist and son of the veteran Kashmir leader, Prem Nath Bazaz, died.

— A new Party emerged in the Lok Sabha following the combination of the Democratic Socialist Front and Socialist Party under the name of Democratic Socialist Party comprising of eight members belonging to the former DSE and three former Socialist Party members. A. Neelalohitadasan Nadar from Trivandrum became its leader.

— Sheikh Abdullah, Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, handed over the Presidentship of the ruling National Conference to his son, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, who is also a

Member of the Lok Sabha.

August 21 Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, V.P. Singh, relinquished five major portfolios and retained the other Departments including General Administration, CID Vigilance, Intelligence, Appointments and Administrative Reforms.

22 The Ministry of Finance issued orders that payment of hotel bills in India by visiting foreign tourists should be accepted only in foreign exchange. This will facilitate to plug the loopholes in the leakage of foreign exchange.

23 French Foreign Minister, Claude Cheysson, reached New Delhi on a 2 day official visit. He had discussion with the Indian External Affairs Minister and both agreed that political and not military approach can help resolve conflicts in different parts of the World and peace proposals should not contain any pre-conditions.

— Lt Gen K Sunderji has taken over as Deputy Chief of the Army Staff.

— Rear Admiral K K. Nayyar, has taken over as Assistant Chief of Naval Staff at Naval Headquarters in New Delhi.

24 Mrs. Kusumben Trivedi (88), founder of the Kaira District Red Cross Society and the widow of Chandubhai Trivedi, former Governor of Orissa, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, died at her residence at Kapaddwanj town, 44 km from Nadiad.

— Devaraj Urs resigned the Presidentship of the Congress (U) at the Working Committee meeting of the Party in New Delhi. In his letter of resignation to the Members of the Working Committee he said the Party needs to do re-thinking on a number of fundamental questions following the Election Commissioner's order derecognising the Party.

— A new organisation for the "liberation of rural India from urban domination" under the name of the "Gramin Mukti Morcha" (Rural Liberation Front) was formed under the leadership of Bhanu Pratap Singh, Independent Member of Rajya Sabha and former Minister of State for Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction by the representatives of farmers from 10 States.

— The pound has become costlier by 10 paise following the devaluation of the rupee by 0.6 percent by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the third time during the month.

August 24 Sadashiv Krishna alias Bhabusaheb Vaishampayan, a member of the Rajya Sabha, died in Aurangabad of lung cancer at the age of 66.

25 Amalananda Ghosh, an archaeologist of international repute, died. He was 72 Mr. Ghosh was one of those scholars who combined is himself the traditional knowledge of epigraphy, numismatics, Sanskrit literature with modern methods of scientific excavations and explorations.

— Chief Minister of Bihar, Jagannath Mishra, reshuffled the portfolios of his Ministers and relinquished charge of three of the nine departments. He gave up the departments of Science and Technology, Information and Public Relations and Law. While Sami Nadvi has been allocated the Seience and Technology department, Shamai-e-Nabi, who was earlier Minister of State for Health, has been given independent charge of Information and Public Relations.

— Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat agreed to implement in full the award given by the Narmada Water Tribunal on December 7, 1979 on the sharing of water of this river at a special function in New Delhi in the presence of Rao Birendra Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation. According to the agreement the Government of Gujarat has agreed not to build the Sardar Sarovar dam across the river in Navagram in Broach district of Gujarat over the stipulated full reservior level (FRL) height of 455 feet.

— Dr. S.N. Wanchoo, noted patholgist, died. He was 69.

— The Cangress (U) Working Committee unanimously elected Sharad Pawar as the President of the Party relieving Devraj Urs who had tendered his resignation from the office on August 24. He will be deemed to be a "provisional President" until his appointment in ratified by the A.I.C.C. according to the Party Constitution.

— Kamal Bakshi, till recently Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Sweden.

— Lok Sabha unanimously passed two Bills- the Essential Commodities (Special Provision) Bill and the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Essential Commodities Amendment Bill - designed to deal drastically with black marketers, hoarders and profiteers with provisions that include summary trial by Special Courts and detention of offenders.

— West Bengal Governor, T.N. Singh, tendered his resignation.

— A.N. Banerjee was sworn-in as Governor of Himachal Pradesh at Simla.

August 26 Amen-ud-din Ahmad Khan was sworn-in as Governor of Punjab at Chandigarh.

— During the course of discussion with the visiting Kampuchean Foreign Minister, Hun Sen, at New Delhi, External Affairs Minister, Narasimha Rao, expressed India's concern over the way in which Kampuchea had become embroiled in Great Power rivalry. Referring to the presence of Vietnamese troops in the country, the visiting Foreign Minister, Hun Sen, assured his counterpart that the troops will go away the moment extraneious interference stops in Kampuchea.

— Justice Sambhu Chandra Ghose was sworn-in as Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court.

— Over 40 passengers were killed and 50 injured, most of them seriously, when an overcrowded Goriakothi bound private bus fell into a roadside ditch near Barkagaon, 7 km from Siwan (Patna).

27 Ajit Mohan Banerjee has been appointed Senior Adviser in the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. He has been in the Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi and served as Regional Adviser on Governmental affairs in the Asia Pacific Region of ESCAP, Bangkok.

— Ravindra Verma, former Minister for Parliamentary Affairs in the Janata Government, was elected Deputy Leader of the Janata Parliamentary Party in the Lok Sabha defeating Dr. Subramaniam Swamy by one vote.

28 K.K. Mathew, retired Judge of the Supreme Court was appointed to head the reconstituted Law Commission. Narsullh Beg, former Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court and T. P. Chaturvedi, former Judge of the Allahabad High Court were the other two members. This was the ninth Law Commission and will report to the Government on specific subjects referred to it, particularly the revision of the Central Laws of general importance with a view to simplifying the texts and removing ganamalies and ambiguities.

— M. O. Mathai, the powerful Special Assistant for over a decade to the late Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, died. He was 72.

August 28 The proceedings of the S. K. Ray Commission of Inquiry have been stayed by the Madras High Court. The Commission was appointed by the Government of India on June 18 1981 to enquire into the alleged inter-State spirit deal relating to Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

— Dr. J.P. Naik, former Advisor to the Union Education Ministry, died. He was 75.

30 Dr. Niharranjan Ray, an educationist and a former Rajya Sabha member, died at the age of 79 at Ballygunge, South Calcutta. He was many facted and scintallating personality in the realm of history, art, culture and education.

— India won the first Asian Women's championship beating Japan 2-1 in the final of the six-nation event.

31 Air Chief Marshal Dilbagh Singh too kover as the new Air Force Chief. He succeeded Air Chief Marshal I. H. Latif who retired after 40 years of distinguished service.

— Fund collection by the Maharashtra Chief Minister, A. R. Antulay, in the name of Indira Pratibha Pratishthan, a public trust, raised a storm in Parliament culminating in walkouts by the Opposition in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

— Kuroor Neelakanta Namboodiripad, veteran freedom fighter and Congress leader, died. He was 94.

— Major Gen. C. M. Somanna, took over as General Officer Commanding of a Corps in the western sector in the rank of Lt. General.

— Maharashtra Chief Minister, A. R. Antualy, announced at a press conference that Revenue Minister, Shalinitai Patil, is dismissed from the Cabinet.

— Rs. 10 crore hydel project built at Swrajpura in Nepal under the Indo-Nepalese treaty of friendship was handed over to the Nepalese Government. The 15 MW power house has been constructed on the Gandak river canal to harness the turbulent waters of the Himalayan river for the people in both countries.

— Twenty five persons were killed and 39 injured when the Delhi bound Tamil Nadu Express derailed between Ralapet and Sirpur Agaznagar on the Kazipet-Balarshah section of the South Central Railway.

September 1 The Bill permitting Delhi University to affiliate colleges outside the Union Territory secured parliamentary approval when the Rajya Sabha passed it.

— Parliament gave its approval to the acquisition of shares of the British India Corporation by the Union Government when the Rajya Sabha passed the British India Corporation (acquisition of shares) Bill, 1981, after rejecting an Opposition amendment. The Bill, which seeks to replace an Ordinance on the subject, has already been passed by the Lok Sabha.

— Roshan Lal Chaturvedi, former Deputy Minister of Railways, died after a heart attack. He was 62. He was a member of the Lok Sabha from 1952 to 1962 and again from 1967 no 1970.

— A set of four multi-colour stamps on flowering trees was released by Bhisma Narain Singh, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Works and Housing.

2 According to an official anouncement, Mrs. Kamla Kumari Bhatnagar has been appointed an Additional Judge of the Rajasthan High Court. The appointment will take effect from September 26.

— The Supreme Court, by a majority of four to one, upheld the constitutional validity of the Special Bearer Bonds Scheme which aimed at unearthing black money.

— U S. decided to oppose the posting of Prabhakar Menon as a Political Counsellor in the Indian Mission in Washington. U.S State Department spokesman said that its decision was in retaliation against the Indian reluctance to accept George B. Griffin as Political Counsellor in the American Embassy in New Delhi. India opposed George Griffin's appointment because of his alleged connections with the Central Intelligence Agency. U.S. as well as India denied George B. Griffin's as well as Prabhakar Menon's connection with intelligence agencies.

3 Bhola Paswan Shastri was elected leader of the Congress (S) Parliamentary Party and K.P. Unniksrishnan, its deputy leader.

— President Sanjiva Reddy accepted the resignation of T.N. Singh and appointed B.D. Pandey, former Union Cabinet Secretary, as Governor of West Bengal. Mr. Pandey was sworn-in on 12th September.

September 3 Trade Unions and service organisations under the control of the Kerala Rulling frcnt parties organised a near total one day strike in protest against the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance promulgated by the Centre.

4 The Congress (I) Ministry in Manipur, headed by Chief Minister Rishang Keishing, was expanded with the induction af 11 Ministers six with Cabinet rank and others of Ministers of State rank. The strength of the Ministry now goes up to 19.

— The Lok Sabha passed a Bill to create a welfare fund for cine workers.

— Mishrilal Gangwal, former Chief Minister of Madhya Bharat died at Indore after a short illness.

— Two civilians were killed when an aircraft of the Indian Airforce crashed and fell near New Delhi. The pilot, the sole occupant of the aircraft, baled out safely.

5 The freedom fighter and Sarvodaya leader, Balkrishna alias Babasaheb Pathak, 70, passed away at Dapoli (Maharashtra).

— Maharashtra Chief Minister, A.R. Antulay, said that the Indira Gandhi Pratibha Pratishthan Trust floated by him had never been inaugurated. He added that Mrs. Gandhi did not inaugurate the Trust but had only given her blessings or message.

— M.C. Krishnan, a renouned pharmacologist, died. Mr. Krishnan, 62, was a consultant in New Delhi to some national and international pharmaceutical companies.

— Manalal Onkarmal Agarwal, a well known philanthoropist and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Nukumchan Mills, died in Indore. He was 69.

— India and Bangladesh announced a breakthrough in efforts to defuse the tension over the tiny island in the Bay of Bengal which spouted in the late 1979 and emerged as an issue between the two countries in March 1980. In statements simultaneously issued in New Delhi and Dacca, the two Governments announced that they have succeeded in materially defusing the tension over the island "New Moore" which Bangladesh has named as South Talpatty.

— One person was killed and 24 injured in Shia-Sunni clashes in old Lucknow. Indefinite curfew was imposed in some parts of the Chowk area following violence.

September 6	Over 1,700 Bharatiya Janata Party workers courted arrest in New Delhi demanding early election to the superseded local bodies of the city.
—	World Bank sanctioned a loan of $ 100 million for the construction of a pulp and paper mill in Tamil Nadu and the International Development Association, a credit of $ 220 million for irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh.
7	Afghan Foreign Minister, Shah Mohammad Dost, arrived in New Delhi on an official visit.
—	Five armed dacoits entered the South Extension New Delhi branch of the Canara Bank, stabbed four employees, hit several others and escaped with over Rs. 6 lakhs in cash.
—	A four member team headed by Bidyut Sarkar of the Himalayan Association, scaled the Maiktoli (22,320 ft), Devtoli (22,270 ft) and one unnamed peak about 22,000 ft. in the Nandadevi region. The other three members of the team were Ashis Roychoudhary, Gautam Datta and Amulya Roy.
—	K.C. Khanna, Resident Editor of the Bombay edition of the Times of India, took over as Editor of the Illustrated Weekly of India from M.V. Kamath, who has retired.
—	2,109 Akali volunteers, including Sant H.S. Longowal, Gurbachan Singh Tohra and Prakash Singh Badal, courted arrest in Delhi to protest against the alleged interference of the Government in the religious affairs of the Sikhs. They were later released in the evening.
8	Inaugurating the sixth International Conferenee of Women Engineers and Scientists, attended by delegates from 16 countries at Bombay, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi advised scientists to relate new knowledge with old experiences to solve the developing countries, problems to bring about greater social and economic justice and to promote equality of opportunity.
—	The Madagascar President, Didier Ratsiraka, accompanied by his wife, was accorded an enthusiastic welcome when he arrived on a two day State visit to India.
—	The noted film actor, Bipin Gupta died at a North Calcutta nursing home. He was 76.
—	The Railway Minister, Kedar Pandey, announced in the Lok Sabha that the Railways would pay 24 day's bonus to its employees before October 1.

September 8 The Rajya Sabha passed the Arms (Amendment) Bill 1981, empowering thc Government to exercise greater vigilance on the issue of licence for firearms, besides their sale and transfer, and to award stringent punishment for offenders under the Act.

9 The first batch of 18 Indian pilgrims left on a visit to Mansarovar Lake and Kailash Parbat, the famous Hindu shrins in Tibet, after a gap of 19 years. The Chinese Government had placed a ban on the visit of Indian pilgrims following border clashes in 1962.

— I. P. E. Palia, who played in Cricket tests for India in England in 1932 and 1936, died. He was 71. He captained Maysore, U. P. and Bengal in Ranji Trophy matches.

— Lala Jagat Narain, 82 year old noted journalist and Editor of the "Hindi Samachar" group of newspapers of Jullundar was shot dead near Ludhiana. He was a former M. P. and a former Minister in the Sachar Government of United Punjab Chief Minister of Punjab, Darbara Singh, experessed deep grief over the incident.

— Minister of State for Home Affairs, P. Venkatasubbiah, informed Lok Sabha that nine State Governments have issued instructions prohihbiting participation by their employees in the activities of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and Jamat-e-Islami. The States were : Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pardesh, Punjab, Haryana, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu.

— Raj Nath Singh, Vice Chancellor of the Udaipur University, has been suspended.

10 V. V. Nevrekar of India was elected Chairman of the Task Force on the Political Prisoners of South Africa by the U N Special Committee Against Apartheid.

11 According to a joint communique issued at the conclusion of the four day visit to India of the President of Madagascar, Didier Satsiraka, the two countries expressed desire to redouble efforts for a speedy implementation of the U. N. declaration for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. They also expressed concern over the large scale induction of sophisticated weapons in India's neighbourhood.

— An Air Force SU-7 plane on routine exercise flight crashed in Khairabad village near Guru Nanak Dev University. The only occupant of the plane, pilot Gill was killed in the crash.

September 11	At least 17 passengers of a Madhya Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation bus were reported killed when the bus fell into a nullah near Barai Panihar, about 18 km from Gwalior.
—	Bangladesh Foregin Minister, Shamsul Haq, who arrived in New Delhi on a three day visit had separate talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Foreign Minister, P. V. Narasimha Rao. The Prime Minister assured him that India would adopt a practical and constructive approach towards the outstanding bilateral issues and reiterated Indian commitment to fostering friendship, cooperation and good neighbourly relations with Bangladesh.
—	A conference of Labour Ministers of seven States, presided over by Union Labour and Planning Minister, N. D. Tiwari, recommended that the daily minimum wages should be fixed between Rs. 7 and Rs. 8 all over the country.
—	Dr. Nandlal Bordia, a tuberculoses specialist died in Indore. He was 72. Dr. Bordia was advisor to the Government of India on T. B. He was awarded a Padma Shree in 1973.
—	Ramsharan Upadhayay, called father of basic education in India, died. He was 95.
—	The 24 hour bandh organised by the Left Front (West Bengal) against the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance and the price rise, disrupted normal life in the State. Chief Minister Joyti Basu claimed that the bandh was a complete success and peaceful, barring a few minor incidents
12	At least two dozen persons were reported to have been killed and several injured at Mauranipur, 90 km from Jhansi, when a severe duststorm uprooted several trees and tin roofs of houses.
—	Branimir-To-Dorovich of Yugoslavia has won this year's Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Medal for his poem on news of comrade Tito's death.
—	The former Union Cabinet Secretary, B. D. Pande has taken over as new Governor of West Bengal.
—	The Government sponsored bandh to voice the concern of the people of Tamil Nadu over the recent atrocities on Sri Lanka's Tamil paralysed normal life in Tamil Nadu. Chief Minister, M. G. Ramachandran, in a statement, thanked the people for their cooperation in observing the

bandh successfully and peacefully and expressed the hope that Sri Lanka Government would understand the intense feelings of the people of Tamil Nadu and ensure that no section of its people are subjected to atrocities in future.

September 12 Lala Prannath, freedom fighter and an Arya Samajist, died. He was 86.

— Mrs. Vsri Ghatak and Shyam Sunder Poddar have been appointed members of the Advisory Panel of the Board of of Film Censors.

— T. A. Selvarog, former national snooker and billiards champion, died. He was 61.

13 The Cabinet Committee set up to process the Puri Committee report on the controversial gold auction during the Janata regime, has reportedly come to the conclusion that the matter be shelved for want of sufficient evidence to prove the involvement of former Prime Minister Morarji Desai and former Finance Minister H. M. Patel.

— Dr. S. R. Palit, 70, noted scientist and former President of Indian Association of Cultivation of Science, died of a heart attack.

— Noted Indian writer, Som Sundaram, passed away at Moscow. He was 64. Mr. Sundaram who hailed from Tamil Nadu, was a versatile writer. Before joining the Soviet Publishing House, Mr. Sundaram was working with Hindi daily "Nav Bharat Times".

— Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh have agreed to jointly implement the Rs. 345 crore Kol hydel project in Himachal Pradesh with an installed capacity of 600 MW, according to a memorandum of understanding reached between the Chief Ministers of the two States.

— The three men inquiry Commission headed by former Patna High Court Judge Jitendra Narain set up by the Karpoori Thakur Government (Bihar) to go into the circumstances leading to the communal disturbances in Jamshedpur in April 1979, has blamed the R S.S., the Jana Sangh and the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh for authoring, inciting and fomenting the trouble which took a toll of 108 lives. Giving his reactions, the R.S.S. Chief Balasaheb Deoras described the report as "absolutely wrong, baseless and politically motivated".

September 14	Normal life in Tripura paralysed following a 24 hour bandh sponsored by the ruling Left Front in protest against the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance and the price rise.
—	Rampujan Patel and Shivlal Balmiki, both belonging to Congress (I) were declared unopposed to the Rajya Sabha in the by-election from Uttar Pradesh.
15	At least 27 persons were killed on the spot and 15 others injured when a private bus coming from Phagwara to Jullundar turned turtle and fell on the Chareru bridge into the rivulet near Philour.
—	Thousands of unemployed youth from various parts of the country marched in a procession from Red Fort to Boat Club demanding "education and job for all". Seven youth organisations owing affiliation to Left Parties and Congress (S) took part in the protest march which was organised by the All India Student Youth Action Committee.
15	Dr. M. Santappa has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Madras University for a period of three years.
—	At least 45 passengers, including women and children, were feared to have been killed when a U. P. State Road Transport Corporation bus fell into the Ganga near the Japmau bridge.
—	Krishna Kant Tiwari, retired Director of the Zoological Survey of India, has been appointed Vice Chancellor of Jiwaji University, Gwalior.
—	Lok Sabha passed unanimously the Essential Services Maitenance Bill at 4. a. m after the Opposition staged a walk out at the end of a 17 hour sitting, the longest in the annals of Parliament.
—	Parliament amended the income tax laws making it obligatory for companies, including a banking company, to pay by cheque or account payee darft, deposits and interest thereon totalling Rs. 10,000 or more.
—	Parliament has approved a Bill to enable the Government to nationalise the Burmah Oil Company and the Assam Oil Company, ending foreign control over oil operations in India.
—	The World Bank has sanctioned a loan of dollar 100 mil-

lion and its affiliate, the International Development Association, a credit of dollar 220 million to India.

September 17 Dr. Tryambak Govind Mainkar, Director of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, died. He was 66.

— The second batch of 20 Kailas-Mansarovar pilgrim's set out from New Delhi on their three week journey,

— Thirty persons were feared drowned when a service launch dashed against an anicut door in the Mahanadi near Jagatpur on the eastern outskirts of Cuttak.

18 K. Sukumaran, freedom fighter, prominent social worker and Chairman of the "Kerala Kaumudi" a leading Malayalam daily, died.

— Rajya Sabha adopted the Essential Services Maintenance Bill at 4.40 a. m. after 16 hour debate, the longest ever in the annals of the House. The passage of the Bill came after the entire Opposition walked out in protest. Lok Sabha has already passed the Bill.

— The Union Cabinet decided to sanction one more instalment of Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees with effect from April 1 this year.

19 Chief Election Commissioner, S. L. Shakdhar, told newsmen at New Delhi that the Election Commission has decided to hold the repoll in the Garhwal Parliamentary Constituency on November 22, 1981. He said he has also recommended that a 50 percent increase in the election expenses ceiling be provided for to accomodate extra expense for the candidates due to the repoll. The ceiling including the expenses of the countermanded poll on June 14, would thus be Rs. 15 lakh. He added that the November 22 election would be a repoll and not a fresh election. The same candidates as earlier would be the contestants. There would be no fresh nomination.

— Elections to the Metropolitan Council of Delhi were postponed for six months by a Presidential notification. The Metropolitan Council was dissolved on March 21, 1980 for a period of six months. After that two more notifications suspending the provisions of the Delhi Act were issued by the President.

— Former Reserve Bank Governor, K. R. Puri, has been appointed Adviser to the Union Finance Ministry on Life Insurance matters. He will also advise the Government on modalities of splitting up the Life Insurance Corporation of India into four units.

September 19 Giani Sujan Singh has taken over as a member of the Minorities Commission, according to a Commission press note.

— At least 30 persons were charred to death when a fire broke out in a cracker factory at Sivakasi, in Ramanathapuram district (Madras).

— Three Indian women made mountaineering history when they climed the 7,816 metrer high Nanda Devi to become the first women atop the peak. The women climbers were members of the six member summit party of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation sponsored expedition. It was the largest ever group of climbers atop the peak.

20 Bihar Lok Dal organizing Secretary, Shivnandan Prasad Chandrabansi, was allegedly killed in broad daylight by a group of persons, including some policemen at Patna.

— Dr. Nitish Sengupta, Joint Secretary in the Economic Affairs Department of the Union Finance Ministry, has been unanimously elected Chairman of the UN Commission on Transnational Corporation for 1981-82. The name of Dr. Sengupta was proposed by the USSR and Great Britain

— Eight persons were killed when police opened fire on an unruly mob which attacked a police camp soon after Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindrawale, wanted in connection with the murder of Lala Jagat Narain, Editor in Chief of Hind Samachar group of Papers, surrendered to the police in Amritsar.

— Eighteen persons were killed on the spot and 44 seriosly injured when lightning struck them in Raigad and Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra's Konkan region.

— Kshitish Chandra Sarkar, noted historian, died at his Baranagar residence. He was 87.

— Murlidhar Singh, a noted educationist, died. He was 70.

— The senior Congrees leader, Sadashiv Dajiba, a former M. P. and M.L.A. died.

— President of Botswana, Dr. K. J. Masire, arrived in New Delhi on a 10 day official visit to india During their talks both Masire and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi agreed that forces of freedom and progress in Southern Africa should be given all encouragement and support in the face of the intransigent attitude of the racist regime.

Septemder 20 South Zone won the Deodhar Trophy cricket tournament with expected case against Central Zone.

21 Air Marshal T. S. Brar, has been appointed Vice Chief of the Air Staff.

— Except for some minor incidents, Punjab remained peaceful though tense after yesterday's violence in the wake of arrest of Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindrwale, which left 13 dead and many injured some of them seriously. Units of Border Security Force and the U. P. Police Armed Constabulary took up strategic positions in Amritsar and Julludhar to assist the local administration in maintaining peace. Several Sikh organisations and the Punjab unit of the CPI demanded a judical inquiry into yesterday's police firing.

— Soloman Saring, Congress-I nominee was declared elected to the lone Rajya Sabha seat from Sikkim in the biennial election held at Gantok.

— Two young men from Bihar, Kameshwar Prasad Singh and Ganesh Dutt Singh, who allegedley planed to assassinate Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at the instance of the Anand Marg, have been arrested by the special branch of Delhi Police.

— Well known Kannada folk singer, Kalinga Rao, died in Bangalore after a long illness. He was 67.

22 About 50 persons, mostly farm labourers, were reported missing when an overloaded country craft capsized in the swollen Pennar river near Khadarbangla, about 12 km from Cuddapah in Andhra Prodesh.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi made a brief and sudden visit to Chandigarh and discussed the situation with the representatives of various Political Parties and other organizations. She succeeded in persuading them to issue a joint appeal for peace and harmony in Punjab to end the tension. She called upon the people of the State to rise above small differences and narrow prejudices to maintain the tradition of communal harmony for which Punjab is well known. Among those who attended the meeting were the leaders of the Akali Dal (Longowal), CPI, CPI (M), Janta Party, Bhartiya Janata Party, Congress (I) and some respectable citizens belonging to different communities, The Akali Dal (Talwandi) did not participate in the meeting.

September 22 A Rs. 27 crore loan from Kuwait, the second instalment of a loan given by the Kuwait Government for constructing a coal handling plant of the Anpara Thermal Power Project in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pardesh, was signed in Kuwait.

— Sharad Govind Manohar has been appointed an Additional Judge of the Bombay High Court for a period of one year with effect from September 26.

— Sisten Ethel Therry, nominated members of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council and four others died in a bus accident near Yerragondalapalem in Prakasam district.

23 The country's second shore based steel plant at Paradip will be built as a Rs. 3,500 crore turn key project by Britain's Davy Mackee group, according to a Cabinet decision taken before Prime Minister Indira Gandhi left for Australia and the ASEAN countries.

— Incessant rains and landslides claimed 17 lives in Bombay. Many others were injured and rendered homeless by the deluge. Transport remained disrupted for most of the days.

— India will receive DM 360 million (Rs. 133.92 crores) ar financial assistance for 1981-82 from West Germany undes an agreement signed between the two Government- at New Delhi. The agreement was preceded by negotiations which began on September 21.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in Djakarta on the first leg of her 17-day five-nation tour. She was greeted by Indonesian President General Suharto and his Cabinet collegues. On September 24, Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi and President Suharto of Indonesia had talks on wide range of subjects including the Kampuchean issue. Shortly after the conclusion of their talks, Indira Gandhi admitted that there are "shades of differences" between the two countries on the Kampuchean issue which is of vital significance to the South East Asian region. On 25th September, addressing a news conference in Jakarta, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, strongly defended India's decision to recognise the Heng Samrin Government in Kampuchea, since it controlled most of the territory and enjoyed maximum popular support. She said India stood by the declaration adopted at the non-aligned meet in New Delhi on Kampuchea

— Vijay Suman, a veteran journalist, poet and writer, died. He was 72. He had written many books in Punjabi, Dogri and Urdu.

Septembet 24 India was elected Chairman of the "Committee of the Whole" of the 25th general conference of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which commenced at Vienna on September 21. Indian Ambassador to Austria, K. L. Dalal, who is also India's representative on the Governors of IAEA, was elected Chairman of the "Committee of the Whole, said an official release.

— R. S. Gentle, former Indian Olympic hockey player, passed away. Mr. Gentle represented India in three Olympics.

25 Addressing a news conference at New Delhi, Communications Minister, C. M. Stephen, announced payment of 21 days wages as bonus to eligible employees in the P and T Department with a warning to deal effectively with the section of the employees threatening non-cooperation from October 12. Asked if he would invoke the recently passed Essential Services Maintenance Act, the Minister said "that law is least harmful". He warned of sterner measures "to protect the majortiy of workers and people".

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was given a warm welcomee on her arrival in Fijian capital Siu a, on a three day visit to Fiji. In the course of her speeches she declared that India, which is among the first 10 industrialised nations and possesses the third largest pool of scientific and technological manpower, is willing to help other developing countries achieve industrial development and economic self reliance. Speaking at the banquet in honour of the Indian Prime Minister, Fijian Prime Minister Sir Kamisese Mara praised India's role in giving the non-aligned nations a degree of cohesion that is unique in mankind's history, "while at the same time attaining for yourself the role of a major mediator". On 26th September, during the discussions between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Fijian Prime Minister, the former assured Fiji that India would do whatever is possible for the development of Fiji. Later, addressing a news conference at Suva, Indira Gandhi deplored the recent nuclear tests carried out by France and also the launching of the intercontinental ballistic missile by China from South Pacific region.

26 Prasanna Lal Choudhury, former All Assam Students Union (AASU) General Secretary, who had been suffering from cancer for the last three years, died. He was 35.

— Anand Swarup, Vice Chancellor of the Govind Bhallabh Pant Agricultural University, Pantnagar, is understood to have resigned in protest against the increasing interference in the affairs of the University, which is an autonomous body, by the State Agriculture Minister, Bhanu Pratap Singh.

September 27 Congress (I) MLA (Bihar) Ramdeo Singh, died at Masrakh in Saran district. He was 70.

— The President has appointed Vyom Prakash as an Additional Judge of the Himachal Pradesh High Court for a period of two years. The appointment will take effect on October 31.

28 Babalbhai Mehta, a veteran sarvodaya leader and freedom fighter of Gujarat, died following a heart attack at his Ashram residence at Thamna village in Kaira district. He was 72.

— The Union Government has decided to extend reservation of jobs for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the physically handicapped to the private sector through legislation. It has also decided to fill group 'C' and group 'D' categories of posts both in public and private sectors other than those done through Statutory Public Service Commission, through employment Exchanges. The various States have been asked to implement them since the employment exchanges form part of the State administration. This decision has been taken on the basis of recommendations made by the Mathew Committee on improvement in employment services.

29 A. Karunanidhi, noted Tamil screen comedian of yesteryears, died in Madras. Karunanidhi, 57, had acted in more than 150 films.

— Dr. D. R. Bhumbla, officer on special duty in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, was appointed Vice Chancellor of the Hissar Agricultcal University.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in Nuku-Alofa (Tonga) on a 24 hour visit to this island Kingdom. In his welcome address, Prime Minister of Tonga, Prince Tuipelehake referred to actual or potential instability in some parts of the world. He praised India's role in trying to ensure peace and stability. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi concluded her visit to Tonga on 29th September and left for Melbourne to attend the Common Wealth Heads of Government meeting.

— The pound sterling has become further cheaper by 20 paise with the revaluation of the rupee by 1.22 per cent by the Reserve Bank of India. The RBI has fixed a middle rate of Rs. 16.40 for a pound against the previous rate of Rs. 16.60 a pound.

September 28 Roop Krishan Anand, presently Indian Ambassador to Argentina, has been appointed Ambassador to Senegal in succession to Kanwar Gajendra Singh.

— Speaking in the UN General Assembly during the general debate, External Affairs Minister, P. V. Narasimha Rao, expressed India's "grave concern" over the deteriorating security environment in South Asia. He said "while India does not find itself helpless in any way, we view with deep concern the possiblity of the strategic calculation of outside powers engulfing countries in our region". He added that on its part, India wants to have "strong and self reliant neighbours". India is convinced that this is necessary in her own interest. He said India based its relations with neighbours on sovereign equality, recognition of mutual interests and perceptions.

29 An Indian Airlines Boeing 737, on a scheduled flight from Delhi to Srinagar via Amritsar, was hijacked to Lahore by eight supporters of the Khalistan movement. The hijackers later released 66 of the 117 persons on the plane, but refused to let go the rest until the arrested Akali leader, Sant Jarnail Singh Bindrawale is freed along with his other associate now in prison. According to official sources in New Delhi, the hijackers were members of the Dal Khalsa, the militant organization set up by Dr. Jagjit Singh, a former Finance Minister of Punjab, the prime crusader for Khalistan. The hijacking was organised by two Sikh extremists, Gajendra Singh and N. Sachdev. In a face to face talk with Natwar Singh, Indian Ambassador to Pakistan, in the V I P longue of Lahore airport, the "Dal Khalsa Supreme Panchayat" members and leader of the five hijackers set a deadline till 10 a. m. local time (10.30 IST) on 30th September for the fulfilment of their demands, including the release of Sant Jarnail Singh Bindrawale.

30 The Asian Development Bank has approved $ 450,000 technical assistance grant to the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in Hyderabad to finance the equipment needed for its genetic researches unit.

— At least 13 persons were killed and several injured when a private bus collided with a truck near Garuala about 10 km from Bijnor. All the victims were students travelling in the bus.

— Carrying of Kirpans on the domestic flight of Indian Airlines has been banned by the Security Division of the Civil Aviation Department. All passengers carrying Kirpans would have to deposit them with the Airline staff now. These will be returned to them on reaching their destinations.

September 30 Cuckoo, the cine dancer, who conquered hearts of millions of movie goers in the 50's died of cancer.

— In a swift 28 minute operation, the Pakistani Commandos dressed as cleaners over powered five hijackers of the Indian Airlines Boeing and freed the hostages on board. The daring Commando operation come two hours before 10 a. m. local time (10.30 IST) the deadline set up by the hijackers. Forty six people held hostages for 19 hours by hijackers returned to New Delhi by the hijacked Indian Airlines Boeing 737. The Government of India requested Pakistan to extradite the five hijackers who have been taken into custody by the Pakistani authorities. An appreciation of Pakistan's cooperation in getting the passengers released was made by India during the telephone talk that President Sanjiva Reddy had with President Zia and also through a message sent by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the Pakistani President.

— India and the United States signed two agreement for providing $ 4.5 million (about Rs. four crore) US development assistance to India for the US fiscal year 1981.

— Raje Bahadur Fatesinghrao Maharaj Bhonsle of the junior Bhonsle family, died. He was 92.

31 Amarnath Ram, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed High Commissioner to Zambia. He succeeded late Ravindra Tandon.

October 1 The Centre and 20 State Governments have made reservation in Government jobs, for the physically handicaped varying from one to 4 per cent.

— Chandra Mohan Lal Raizada, a prominent social worker and Director of Delite cinema (Delhi), died. He was 46.

— Dr. D.R Bhubla, took over as Vice Chancellor of the Haryana Agricultural University (HAU), from Dr. P. S. Lamba.

— Pan Singh Tomar, one of the most notorious dacoit leaders of the Chambal Valley, and nine other members of his gang were killed in a night long encounter with the Madhya Pradesh police at Ratinakapure village, 8 km from Gohad. Soldier turned dacoit Pan Singh carried a reward of Rs. 10,000 on his head.

October 1 In Uttar Pradesh, five Deputy Ministers were upgraded as Ministers of State and two new Deputy Ministers were inducted in the Government raising the total strength of the Council of Ministers to 49.

3 Noted surgeon, Dr. (Mrs) Jaya Chaudhury, died at Middlesex Hospital, London, after a prolonged illness. Dr. Chaudhury, who was known for her proficiency in plastic surgery, went to London a few months ago for treatment of cancer.

4 Addressing a Sikh convention at Hissar, Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, condemned the theory that "Sikhs are a nation". The theory can not hold water as many Sikhs living abroad have adopted the nationality of the country to their adoption. In a resolution adopted by the convention under the Presidentship of Sardar Hukam Singh, former Speakerof the Lok Sabha, it condemned the demand of "Khalistan" and said that it is not only harmful to the interest of the Sikhs but also to the nation as a whole.

— A former Punjab Minister, Lahri Singh, died. He was 82.

— The noted Tamil film producer, Dr. P. Balakrishnan (59). was killed when a car in which he was travelling collided with a lorry near Pallavaram on the outskirts of Madras.

— The recent hijacking of the Indian Airlines Boeing 737 aircraft to Lahore has cost the airline an extra 7 lakh rupees. This was in addition to the overtime wages to be paid to a section of the employees who were retained in extra duty

5 Bhagwati Charan Varma, a veteran Hindi literature and a nominated member of the Rajya Sabha, died in New Delhi following heart attack. He was 78. Bhagwati Charan Varma was the recipient of Padma Bhushan awarded to him in 1971-72. In 1973 he was nominated to the Rajya Sabha.

— Central Government extended by six more months from October 10, the superesession of the Dehi Municipal Corporation. The Corporation was first superseded lon April 11, 1980 for one year. This was later extended by six month till October 10, 1981 as the Corporation had "persistently defaulted in its duties".

— The film director, Kumar Kuldep, 60, who had come to shoot the Hindi film "Vadiyan Pyar Key," at Bhaderwh, in Doda district of Jammu Province, died.

October 5 Five armed persons looted Rs. 10 lakhs from the State Bank of India branch of Dabwali in Haryana.

6 Pollipuram Gopalan Nair, noted Kathakali artist, died in Alleppey.

7 World Bank approved for India a loan of $ 150 million while its affiliate (IDA) approved a credit of 25 8 million SDR's ($29 million) for forestry development in india. The $ 150 million loan to Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI) carries annual interest of 10.6 percent to be repaid within 15 year with a grace period of three years. The loan will meet part of foreign exchange costs of industrial investment by private enterprises in India.

— The Vice President, Hidayatullah, visited Montreal, on an official visit to Canada,

8 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was given a warm welcome at Manila airport by the Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos who was present along with his wife Imelda Marcos.

9 The portfolios of some of the Cabinet Ministers of Uttar Pradesh were reshuffled for the second time during the past one week.

10 A new organisation called the Congress of Central Government Employees Organisation (COCGO) has been formed at the initiative of INTUC President N. K. Bhat. This was the first time that the ruling party has tried to bring Central Goverement employee's Organisations under its trade union influence.

— President of Ghana, Hilla Limann, arrived in New Delhi on a six day visit to India. He had discussions with the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on 12th October. President Limann left New Delhi on 15th October.

— Two Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Mines and Irrigation Minister, C. Dass and the Minister of State for Cinematography, N. Chandrababu Naidu, who were suspended on October 9 from the ruling Congress (I) Party by the PCC (I) Chief for defiance of Party directives, honded over their resignations to the Chief Minister, T. Anjiah.

11 A. B. Shah, noted educationst, social reformer and one of the first disciples of M. N. Roy, died in Pune. He was 61.

— Prakash Padukone won the inaugaral World Cup Badminton Men's singles title, defeating China's Han Jain 15-0, 18-16. The match was held in Kuala Lampur.

October 11 The UNDP has approved assitance of a little over a million $ to a project for coal gasification to be located at the regional laboratory in Hyderabad.

12 Chief Election Commissioner, S.L. Shakdher, announced that by-election to 16 Assembly seats and one Lok Sabha seat in eight Stetes will be held on November 29. Lok Sabha seat was in Nandurbar (Maharshtra) whereas the Assembly seats were in Andhra Pradesh (3), Bihar (3), Gujarat (3), Maharashtra (1), Tamil Nadu (1), Tripura (3) and Uttar Predesh (1).

13 India agreed to give Rs. 50 million in credit to enable Ghana to import Indian manufactured goods and the two countries agreed to take steps under new agreements signed in the presence of visiting President Dr. Hilla Limann and President Sanjiva Reddy, to strengthen coopration in a wide range of trade, economic, scientific and cultural fields and will extend "the most favoured nation" treatment to exports from either country.

15 Janrail Singh Bindranwale, who was arrested on September 20 in connection with the Lala Jagat Narain murder case, was released from the Central Jail Ferozepur under the order of Ludhiana Magistrare G. K. Rai.

— Supreme Court issued a show cause notice to Maharashtra Chief Minister, A. R. Antulay asking him to explain why a writ petition filed by two citizens of Bombay who were refused cement for repair or house building, challenging his cement allocation policy and the operation of the trusts, should not be admitted for hearing.

16 At her meeting with the Akali delegation headed by Sant Harchand Singh Loggowal, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi asked the Sikh leaders to strive for creating a climate of understanding, harmony and tolerance in Punjab. Promising consideration of the grievances and demands submitted to her by the Dal, the Prime Minister administered a stern warning to the extremists and secessionist elements among the Sikhs for their activities and said that whatever may be the cost, her Government will not compromise with or show leniency towards them.

17 Lt. Governor, S.L. Khurana, constituted a high powered committee to suggest various measures to ensure securtiy and discipline in Tihar jail. The committee has been constituted after public criticism of rampant corruption in Tihar jail.

18 Addressing the mammoth convention of the Virat Hindu Samaj held at the Boat Club in New Delhi, the Samaj Presid-

ent, Dr. Karan Singh, called for a nationwide movement to eradicate untouchability and radical reform in Hindu Society to remove prejudices and distortions which has weakened it.

October 18 Rajendra Prasad Doneria, freedom fighter and former MLA, died in Agra.

— Ramsharan Das, Sanatan Dharma leader and writer, died in Pilakhua (Ghaziadad). He was 67.

— Setting aside protocol, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausesu himself greeted Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as she arrived at Otopent airport from New Delhi for a three day official visit to Romania.

9 At least 110 persons were drowned and hundreds marooned when an old irrigation tank burst in heavy downpuor and washed away about 80 huts in the tiny hamlet of Gopinathapura in Kollegal Taluk in Mysore district.

— Bombay, reigning Ranji Trophy Champions, regained the Irani Cup beating Rest of India by virtue of their first innings lead.

— India and Mauritius signed a convention in New Delhi, which will eliminate double taxation and prevent fiscal evasion.

— K.G. Joglekar took over as Registrar of Newspapers for India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

— Shyama Charan Tiwari, a leading industrialist and social worker, died. He was 75.

— Smt. Shivrajwati Nehru, cousin of Jawaharlal Nehru and a former Member of Parliament, died after a prolonged illness. She was 84.

20 Consequent on the 9 member Kerala Congress (Mani Group) withdrawing its support to it, the 21 month old Left Democratic United Front Ministry in Kerala headed by the Marxist leader, E.K. Nayanar, submitted its resignation to the Governor, Jyoti Vencatachellum. The Kerala Congress decision left the ruling front with only 62 members in the 141 member Assembly.

— Sharad Pawar was unanimously elected as the Congress (U) President before the commencement of the two day AICC (U) session in Munshinagar. Sharad Pawar, who succeeded Devaraj Urs, has been chosen as the interim President by the Working Committee of the Party in August 1981.

October 21	The pound sterling became cheaper by 15 paise with the revaluation of the rupee by 0.89 percent by the Reserve Bank of India. The RBI has fixed a middle rate of Rs. 16.80 per pound against the previous rate of Rs. 16.96.
—	President N. Sanjiva Reddy signed a proclamation in exercise of the power conferred on him by Article 356 of the Constitution, placing Kerala under Central rule, while keeping the Assembly in suspended animation. The Cenıal Cabinet, which met earlier under the Chairmanship of P.V. Narasimha Rao, accepted Governor Jyoti Vencatachellum's report received overnight recommending a brief spll of President's rule, since in her view no alternative Government could be formed at present. The proclamation authorised the Governor to take over the administration. The Centre also decided to appoint T.N. Lakshminarayan, a retired IAS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, as adviser to run the administration of the State.
22	M.P.S. Malik, till recently India's Ambassador to Cuba, has been appointed Ambassador to Tanzania He was also India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva.
—	The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) announced that it would be assiting India to the tune of about $ 10 million for family welfare activities in the country during 1982.
23	C. Rajagopal, founder member of the Bangalore Photographic Society, has won the 1981 Master Federation Internationaled 'la Art Photopgraphique (MFIAP) award, the highest distinction for photopgraphy in the world. Mr. Rajagopal has also been awarded "excellence pour services rendus" by the Federation.
—	Former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, J. Vengal Rao, resigned from the Congress (S).
—	India's first experimental Communication Satellite, APPLE, now in geostitionary orbit with one of its solar panels jammed, has developed a "temperature snag" after an eclipse early this month. The payload operations have been temporarily suspended to enable mission control at Sriharikota to bring down the sensor temperature which had shown "abnormally high values not conducive to normal operations during midnight hours".
—	Prof. A.A A. Fayzee, renowned orientalist and Islamic Scholar, died. He was 82. Born in Matheran (Maharashtra) on April 10, 1899,. A.A A. Fyzee was the Indian Ambassador to

Egypt, Minister in Lebanon, Syria and Jordon and Vice Chancellor of Jammu and Kashmir University.

October 23	Ram Bulchand Lalwani was sentenced to three years rigorous imprisonment on the charge of making an attempt on the life of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi last year. The Additional Sessions Judge, K.B Andley, who passed the sentence, also ordered Lalwani to pay a fine of Rs. 50 or in default to undergo 15 days further imprisonment. Lalwani was arrested on April 14, 1980 and charged under section 307 of the Indian Penal Code, with having thrown a spring actuated knife at Indira Gandhi outside Parliament House where she had addressed a meeting to mark the birth anniversary of Late Dr. B R. Ambedkar.
—	Three men on motorcycle shot dead Mohinder Paul, Kapurthala district Janata Party General Secretary, at Narur Panchayat village, about 18 km from Phagwara in Kapurthala district.
24	K.L. Gauba, noted lawyer and author, died. He was 82. He was popularly known as "K.L". He wrote over 20 books including "Uncle Sham", "Assassination of the Mahatma", "Prophet of the Desert", "Passive Voices", "Mystery of the Nagarwala Case" and "H.H.".
25	Gajrabhen Desai, wife of former Prime Minister Morarji Desai, died in Bombay after a prolonged illness. She was 81.
26	Dr. D R. Bendre, the poet laureate of Karnataka and recipient of the Jnanpith award for 1973, died in hospital at Bombay. He was 86.
—	Jorawan Singh, a member of the Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee (I), was shot dead in a bus at a place in the Mirzamurad police station area.
—	M.C. Joseph (95), veteran freedom fighter and one of the founders of the rationalist movement in Kerala, died at his residence at Irinjalakuda near Trichur.
—	The Union Government issued a fresh notification to extend the ban on the Meitei extremists organisations in Manipur which have been indulging in loot, arson and murder, under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act. The organisations including the People's Liberation Army (Eastern Divison), known as the PLO, the Peoples Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (Prepak) and its "Red Army" and also some of its offshoots like the Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP) and its "Red Army" were declared illegal two years

ago. The notification said these organisations had their objective, the formation of an independent Manipur and resorted to violent activities with the intention of bringing about secession of the State from the rest of India. The new notification will be in force for a maximum of two years and was subject to further extension.

October 28 An agreement for Danish credit of Dkr 150 million (about Rs. 19 crores) was signed in New Delhi. The loan was to finance the consultancy Services of Maldor Topsoe for Thal Fertilizer project and part of the cost of a fisheries research vessel to be procured from Denmark.

— Dr. Shankar Shesh, well known Hindi author and dramatist, died in Srinagar. He was 48.

— International Development Association approved a credit of SDR 22.2 million (about Rs. 20 crores) to India, according to World Bank release. The credit will assist a $ 51.7 million project aimed at providing shelter and urban services in Kanpur.

— P.S. Pattar, a retired Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, has been appointed to hold a judicial inquiry into the police firing at Mehta Chowk, 45 km from Amritsar, in September last. The Punjab Government has asked Mr. Pattar to complete the probe and submit his report within three months.

— Sri Acharya (95), noted Tamil Scholar, died at Thimmarofapuram village near Palayamkottai. Sri Acharya was the recipient of the Sahitya Akademi award for his work on the life of Sri Ramanuja in Tamil.

29 Dinkar Shivram Salvi, better known in the Marathi film world as "Dada Salvi", died in Pune. He was 79.

30 As a fresh round of talks began at New Delhi, Government informed that 320,000 foreigners have been moved out of Assam in the last two years. Assam movement leaders stressed on further strengthening of existing forces on the Indo-Bangladesh border. On 31st October, at the end of discussions between the officials and representatives of All Assam Students Union and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad on ways to strengthen the security of the border, All Assam Students Union Chief, P.K. Mahanta, said that a "tentative agreement" between the two sides has been reached. The agreement, according to him, visualises barbed wire fencing along the Indo-Bangladesh border, construction of roads, demarcation of specified stretch of area as no man's land and joint patrolling of the border by Assam Police and the Border Security Force.

October 30 In a crackdown on agitators demanding minimum agricultural wages in the rural areas of Patna district, over half a dozen persons, including a woman, were killed and 20 injured.

— In a major railroad robbery in recent times, armed bandits made a midnight strike on the Lucknow-Delhi Mail and looted the passengers of an airconditioned two tier coach and left a trail of violence. The desperadoes collected over Rs. 5 lakh in cash and valuables from the 46 occupants and left several injured. They pulled the alarm chain before the train reached Hardoi and left, leaving the passengers high and dry.

— In a major reshuffle of the portfolios of Ministers in Uttar Pradesh, Mrs. Swarup Kumari Bakshi has been allocated the Home portfolio which was hitherto been held by Naunihal Singh. Education Department, which was held by Mrs. Bakshi, has now been given to Naunihal Singh. Brahm Dutt has been divested of the portfolio of Planning which will now be held by Chief Minister, V.P. Singh, himself and Brahm Dutt will now hold charge of the Finance portfolio only.

— N.P. Alexander, till recently India's Ambassador to Sweden, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Czechoslovakia in succession to K.K. Shivsinhji Rani.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced downward revision of the rupee by 1.19 percent in relation to the pound sterling. The spot buying and selling rates were so fixed as to give middle rate of Rs. 16.85 per pound sterling compared with earlier middle rate of Rs. 16.55.

31 Dr. S.C. Banwar, acting Vice Chancellor of North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), who was shot at last night at his residence in Shillong, succumbed to his injureies in a civil hospital.

— The Posts and Telegraph Department issued a commemorative stamp in honour of Tadipatri Raghavachgalu, popularly known as Bellary Raghava, a renowned stage actor.

— The woman bandit, Munni Dhobin, who had become a terror in Unnao and Hardoi, was arrested by the Fathepur Chaursai police.

November 1 Norway will provide India Norwegian Kroner 110 million (Rs. 17.19 crores) during 1982 under an agreement signed in New Delhi. The Norwegian assistance consists entirely of grants and would be utilized for implementing programmes in fisheries, agriculture, health and family welfare, science and technology and woman and child welfare.

November 1 Over 1400 fishermen from Gujarat and Maharashtra were reported missing in the Arabian Sea. A fisherman's colony of over 100 huts in Rajapur port town was swept away as the Saurashtra coast reeled under a severe cyclonic storm.

— Shiv Shankar Raval, noted freedom fighter, known as the Gandhi of Malwa and founder of the Ujjain Mill Mazdoor Sangh, died in Ujjain He played a leading role during the freedom struggle in the erstwhile state of Gwalior in Central India.

— Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Vasant Sathe, inaugrated the experimental TV relay centrn at a function in Bangalore. With this the Bangalore city entered the television map of India.

2 The eminent educationist, D. N. Bose, died.

— The Himachal Pradesh Government banned the Shakhas of RSS and the Anand Marg and drills in public places and schools. These organisations have been prohibited from holding demonstrations with weapons, including lathis, at public places.

— Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation award for outstanding constructive work was announced for Amalprava Das, a freedom fighter of the Sarania Ashram, Gauhati. The other recipients of the Award were Shri A. M. M. Murugappa Chettiar Research Centre, Photosynthesis and Energy Division headed by Dr. C. V. Seshadri (Tharmani, Madras) for pioneering research in Science and Technology for rural development and Ramadevi Gopabandhu Chaudhuri of Cuttak for her outstanding contribution to the welfare and upliftment of women and children.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi inaugurated the troposcatter communication link between India and USSR. Exchanging greetings over the telephone through the troposcatter communicatiod link, Indira Gandhi and the Soviet President L. I. Brezhnev, described the link between two countries as an important milestone in Indo-Soveit economic, scientific and technological cooperation.

— The services of 1,200 striking temporary jail employees in Uttar Pradesh were terminated and notices were being issued to permanent employees for necessary action. The Government initiated the deterrent action of terminating the services of the temporary and probationary employees after the strikers ignored the ultimatum to return to work by November 1 midnight.

November 3	Ardeshir Burjorji Bilimoria, a Director of Tata Sons and Tata Industries, died after a brief illness . He was 58.
—	M. Gopala Menon, retired I. C. S. officer, has been appointed third Adviser to the Governor of Kerala T. N. Lakshminarayanan and N. Caudrabhanu have already been appointed advisers to the Governor. However, M. Gopala Menon, resigned on November 14, over the question of seniority and allocation of portfolio among three advisers.
—	N. Ramesan, Vigilance Commissioner in Andhra Pradesh and noted archaeologist, died. He was 60.
—	Portuguese Foreign Minister, Andre Gonsalves Pereira, who arrived at Delhi Airport, said India and Portugal shared common interest in the pursuit of peace and North South dialouge. On 5th November, he described his talk with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, as "very interesting and illuminating" and those with Foregin Minister, Narasimha Rao, as "wide ranging".
—	President of Venezuela, Luis Herrera Campins, arrived in New Delhi on a three day official visit. A banquet was given in honour of the visiting dignitary by President Sanjiva Reddy. On 4th Novemer, during their meeting in New Delhi Venezuelan President, Dr. Luis Campins and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi discussed bilateral and global issues and expressed the hope that greater cooperation among developing countries could neutralise the negative implications of super power confrontation. There were also other meetings at ministerial level between the two countries where discussions covered economic cooperation especially in the field of oil and on the follow up action after the Cancun summit. On 5th November, a joint communique was released at the and of the three day visit of the Venezuela's President Dr. Luis Herrena Compins.
—	Sixteen year old Ramphal from Rajasthan was crowned Asian Junior Champion in 48 kg. class amidst vigorous protests of boycott of the victory ceremony by the Iranians in the first Asian Junior Wrestling Championship which concluded in Hissar. India claimed two silver medals through Gain Singh of Haryana and Maehtab Singh of Delhi and four bronze medals through Mahabir (52 kg.), Rajinder (56 kg.), Chob Singh (81 kg) and Sukhbir (over 87 kg).
4	Chief Minister of Maharashtra, A. R Antulay, took over the Transport portfolio from the Law and Judiciary Minister, Babashaheb Bhosale. He has now beed alloted the

portfolio of Rural Development, earlier held by Baburao Kale, who had to resign at the instance of the Chief Minister.

November 4 The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONCC) signed, in Singapore, a syndicate loan agreement for $ 74 million to purchase two oil rigs and allied equipment for expanding India's oil exploration activities.

5 Dr. Nagendra Singh was re-elected Judge of the International Court of Justice at the Hague for a second term of nine years starting from new year day.

— India and Poland signed a cooperation programme at Warsaw in different scientific fields for the years 1982-84 The programme included the continuation of the metallurgical, geophysical and geological cooperation as also in the protection of the environment oceanography and other fields.

— India announced coctributions of $ 1,000,000 to the UN Industrial Development Fund and $ 100,000 to the UN Habitat and Human Settlement Fund.

— The Saudi Arabia Fund for Development has agreed to give India a loan of 106 million Saudi Riyals (Rs. 27 crores app.) for the 710 MW Koel Karo hydroelectric project in Bihar.

6 India and Portugal signed in New Delhi the first cultural agreement between the two countries. Valid for a period beginning January 1, 1982, the cultural exchange programme under the agreement covers a wide spectrum of activities in the field of education, science, art, culture, mass media sports and public health.

— J. L. Mishra, a freedom fighter and author, died. He was 74. Mr Mishra was an associate of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

— K. C. Khanna, Chairman of the Steel Authority of India, was sacked. He has been replaced by S. Samarapungavan, Managing Directar of Indian Iron and Steel Company.

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan arrived in New Delhi from kabul for-treatment of osteo-arthritis at Patna Medical College.

— Opening the four day conference in New Delhi of Power Ministers in the Northern and Eastern regions, Abdul Ghani Khan Choudhury, Union Minister for Energy, urged them to take urgent steps to avoid slippages to ensure even flow of funds for power projects and for efficient utilization of plants. He also called for further efforts to usher in a national grid and authority to own and operate the grid along with the regional load dispatch centre.

November 6 The Prime Minister Indira Gandhi left for Bulgaria, Italy and France on a 10 day tour, her third long visit abroad in 45 days.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in Sofia on a three day official visit to Bulgaria. Speaking at a banquet hosted in her honour by Bulgarian President Todor Zhiokov, Indira Gandhi called for an end to military build-up and foreign interference in the Asian continent. Leter on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi met Bulgarian President Todor Zhiokov and had wide ranging talks on international and bilateral issues. The two sides expressed their keen desire to furthur develop the bilateral relations, particularly in the economic field. Prime Minister concluded her visit to Bulgaria on 8th November. An eight page declaration signed by Bulgarian President and Indian Prime Minister was issued at the conclusion of Prime Minister's visit.

— Sikkim's Rumtek Monastry head lama His Holiness Gyalwa Karmpa, died at a Chicago hospital.

— At least 23 persons, including 18 women, were feared dead when an earthen dam on the river Tarafeni under Binpur Police Station collapsed.

— P. N. Kapoor, a noted tantrik of Uttar Pardesh, died.

— The President appointed B. S. Sharma as Vice Chancellor of the North Eastern Hill University for five years from the date he assumes office.

— The Supreme Court, by an extraordinary exparte order, stayed executions of Billa and Ranga and all other condemned prisoners in the country whose mercy petitions had been rejected. The order was passed by a specially constituted three Judge bench which sat at the residence of the Chief Justice Y. V. Chandrachud to hear the petition filed by Ranga challenging rejection of his mercy petition by the President. The bench, headed by the Chicf Justice, passed the stay order while admitting Ranga's petition. The court noted that the petition raised a question of far reaching importance relating to exercise of the power by the President under Article 72 of the Constitution to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence especially in cases of death sentence According to the Court, it is necessary to examine the question. Billa and Ranga would have been executed at the Tihar Jail on November 8 for the brutal murder of Chopra children Geeta and Sanjay.

November 7 The United Nations Development Programme has granted Rs. 297 crore assistance to India for strengthening training facilities at its naval establishment in Goa.

8 Dattaprasanna Katdara, a leading journalist and freedom fighter, died. He was 72.

— The External Affairs Minister, P. V. Narasimha Rao, arrived in London on three day official visit.

— India and France signed a memorandum for indentification of specific areas of cooperation in exploration, production and processing of hydrocarbons. The signing of the memorandum followed discussions between the Franch Petroleum Institute and its associated and subsidiary organisations and a number of Indian Public Sector undertakings in the petroleum sector.

— Rajaram Dadasaheb Nimbalkar, former Member of Parliament, died of heart attack. He was elected to the Lok Sabha from Kolhapur in 1972 on the Congress ticket.

— West Zone retained the Duleep trophy by virtue of their 104 run first innings lead over East Zone in the otherwise drawn four day match at the Brabourne Stadium in Bombay.

9 Nirmal Bhattacharjee, a well known banker and French Scholar, died. Mr. Bhattacharjee was an Honorary Secretary of the Indian Bank Association and also President of the Alliance Francaise for 5 years.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi called on Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini, soon after her arrival in Rome from sofia. The two leaders had a general exchange of views on international and bilateral issues. A State banquet was given in honour of Indira Gandhi on 10th November. A joint statement was issued to the press by the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini, on 11th November, at the end of former's three day visit to Italy. The statement contained an announcement of an additianal Italian credit of $ 100 million for India for the next year and a provision on grant basis for fertilisers and trucks worth another $ 10 million as its contribution towards development of agriculture in India. It said the credit to India would be in addition to $ 40 million already committed by Italy.

— Ram Bachan Yadav, 76, former Minister of Uttar Pradesh and a member of the Lok Dal Parliamentary Board, died after a heart attack. He had been a member of both the houses of the State Legislature for over 19 years.

November 10 At least four persons were killed in three incidents and hundreds were injured in police firing as the dawn to dusk "rail rasta roko" agitation by the Shetkari Sanchetna demanding remunerative prices for farm produce, turned violent at various places in Maharashtra.

— Defending champions North Zone won the C.K. Nayudu interzone cricket final on the basis of 207 first innings lead over Central Zone.

— The International Monetary Fund approved a loan to India of SDR 5 billion (i.e about $ 5 7 billion). The loan had been sought by India for coping with its current account balance of payment deficit which may be up to $ 9 billion over a period of three years. The loan will be disbured from November 1981 to October 1984 thereby straddling the four financial years of the Government of India, from 1981-82 to 1984-85. The Fund, having recognised that the specified objective criteria for disbursement of loan instalments have been fulfilled by India as at the end of November 1981, will disburse SDR 300 million immediately and another like amount after January 15, 1982, thereby completing the first part of the transaction upto the end of March, 1982. The second part consisting of the remaining SDR 4 4 billion will be made available in phased amounts from time to time upon satisfactory completion of reviews by the IMF of India's external adjustment position. The rate of interest may average at about 10 percent over the loan period.

11 The Emirates Telecommunications Corporation (Emirtel) and India's Ministry of Communications have agreed to set up a direct telephone circuit between the United Arab Emirates and India.

— In a major trade agreement, India and Italy decided to promote ventures in third countries for exports. The agreement was reached in Rome after extensive three day talks between officials of these countries which began immediately after the meeting of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Giovanni Spadolini on November 9 in which they stressed the need for expanding existing economic ties between the two countries.

12 At least six person were killed and 63 injured in a head on collision between the Samastipur-Sanapur Express and the Howrah-Muzaffarpur fast passenger at Sathajagat Station on the Samastipur-Barauni section of the North Eastern Railway.

— Mangesh Surlacar, leading educationist, died.

November 12 Maulana Mustafa Razakhan, 96, a Sunni theologian and scholar, expired. His disciples ran into million in the country and abroad.

— Prime Minister Indira Gandhi arrived in Paris on the last leg of her 11 day three nation tour. Speaking at a reception she expressed the hope that future would witness more contacts and exchanges between India and France. Later, Sarbonne University conferred on her an honorary doctorate. She had an hour long talks with the French President Francis Mitterand. On 13th November, talking to newsmen after talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in Paris, French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy expressed his Government's willingness to finance the "Mirage deal" involving purchase of the sophisticated aircraft for the Indian Air Force. Apart from the proposed Mirage deal, which is one of the main topics of discussion between the two leaders, India and France signed four protocols for significantly increased economic collaboration in coal technology, environmental control, power and energy. A banquet was given in honour of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by the French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy. A strongly worded joint declaration was issued on 14th November. The declaration virtually outlined a new political partnership between India and France.

13 Dr. N. Balakrishnan Nair of Kerala University, Prof. Jagannath Upadhyay of Sampuranananda Sanskrit University, Varanasi and Prof. S.N. Misra of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, have been awarded two year Jawaharlal Nehru fellowship. This was announced in New Delhi by the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund on the eve of Nehru's 92nd birth anniversary.

— Hakeem Syed Quamrul Hasan, Chief Editor of Daily Nadeem, the oldest Urdu daily of Madhya Pradesh published from Bhopal, died.

— The Jammu and Kashmir High Court held the anti defection law enacted by the State Legislature as valid. In terms of the anti defection law, any member of the House from a party on whose ticket he was elected to the House and joined another ceases to be a member who resignes from that day. On 17th November the Supreme Court stayed the operation of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court's order upholding the constitiontional validity of the State's anti defection law.

— The Jawaharlal Nehru award for International Understanding for 1981 has been conferred jointly on Prof. Gunnar Myrdal, well known third world economist and his wife, Alva Myrdal, well known sociologist and writer. Vice President

	M. Hidayatullah, Chairman of the Jury for award, announced this on the eve of Jawaharlal Nehru's birth anniversary.
November 13	The Reserve Bank of India announced a downward revision of the rupee by 0 86 percent in relation to pound sterling. The spot buying and selling rates were so fixed as to give a middle rate of Rs. 17 35 per pound compared with the earlier middle rate of Rs. 17 20.
—	Thirty farm labourers were feared to have been drowned when a boat carrying over 100 persons capsized in the Ganga near Shibnagar Ghat, 5 km from Monghyr.
14	Chief Election Commissioner, S.L Shakdher, ordered postponement of repoll in the by election to Garhwal Lok Sabha Constitnency, scheduled for November 22. The order was issued after hearing the U.P. Government represented by its Home Secretary and Inspector General of Police on the one hand and the Democratic Socialist Party represented by H N. Bahuguna, Raghunath Reddy and G.G. Bhattacharya, on the other hand, aruging respectively for and against the postponement of the repoll. Chief Election Commissioner issued the order after having satisfied himself that the State Government would not be able to provide adequate forces to conduct a peaceful and orderly repoll.
—	G.P. Pandey, Vice Chancellor of the Luchnow University, sent in his resignation to the Governor, C.P.N. Singh, who is the Chancellor of the University.
—	One person was killed and 25 others injured, four of them seriously, when 10 bogies of the Pune Jammu Tawi Jhelum Express derailed on the Khandwa-Itarsi section of the Central Railway.
—	Ramesh Khoda of Kenya, driving in a white Datsun, pocked into victory at the end of the second Himalayan car rally. Close behind him was Maj Ravi Kapur in his Nissam Jonga, an entry by the Indian Army. Third in the race was a Mahindra jeep driven by Minoo Nanavaty of India.
—	The Vice President, M. Hidayatullah, released a white pigeon at the open air Hamsadhwani theatre at Pragati Maidan to mark open the prestigious India International Trade Fair, 1981.
—	World Cup Champion Prakash Padukone beat China's number one Han Jian 1-15, 15-5, 15-12 in an exhilarating three game battle in the men's singles of the $ 14,000 Indian Masters Badminton Championship held in Pune.

November 15	Mrs. Kamalatai Hospet, winner of the last year's Jamnaedas Bajaj award for social work, died in Nagpur. She was 65.
—	Veteran freedom fighter, Sajjan Singh Narangwal, died. He was 81.
16	At least 20 persons were feared to have been killed and 50 others injured when a bus collided with a truck and rolled dowd a 30 foot ditch near Karmain crossing, 30 km from Gaya.
—	Hansraj Kapoor, a former MLC and a veteran freedom fighter, died is Ludhiana. He was 86.
—	It was officially announced that J.N. Dixit will be India's next Ambassador to Afghanistan. Mr. Dixit was the Government's spokesman on foreign affairs for the last two years.
—	Seth Ratnchand Hirachand, noted industrialist and social worker, died.
17	India and Morocco signed a three year trade agreement which provides for setting up of a joint Committee of representatives of both countries to formulate measures to promote commercial relations. It also provides for most favoured nation treatment by each other. All payments for transactions under their agreement will be made in freely convertible currency.
18	The 21 day old strike by jail employees of Uttar Pradesh was unconditionally withdrawn following successful negotiations between jail employees leaders and Minister for Jails, Ram Singh Khanna. Nearly 7,000 jail employees had been on strike from October 31 on various demands which included parity with policemen in pay scales.
—	The Centre made it known that it will not tolerate disruption of normal life in Assam by the threatened 36 hour bandh from November, 19 and invoked the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) to ban strikes in all essential services. Meanwhile, the State Government made elaborate security arrangements including requisitioning of army help in a bid to strictly enforce law and order during the bandh.
—	The Government has decided to grant one more instalment of dearness allowance to its employees with effect from June this year.
—	In the worst personal vendetta massacre, 24 people including seven women, reportedly Jatav Harijans, were shot dead by a gang of eight men in Deoli village in the Jassana Police Station area of Mainpuri district (Uttar Pradesh). The murders

were committed by two Thakars, who have criminal records. On 24th November, in the wake of Deoli carnage, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, V.P. Singh, announced at a press conference in Lucknow that he will resign on December 24 if the culprits are not arrested to strengthen the democratic traditions. He declared that, though he has not consulted Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in this connection, he will send his resignation "directly to the Governor".

November 18 Vice Admiral O. S. Dawson, Flag Officer Commander-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command, has been named as the next Chief of the Naval Staff on the retirement of Admiral R. L. Pereira on March 1, 1982.

— A well know singer, Majaddid Niazi, died. He was 57.

19 A 36 hour bandh brought normal life to a halt in the Brahmaputra Valley (Assam) At least one person was roeprted killed in firing on a violent mob at Dhing in Nowgong district Sponsored jointly by the All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP), the bandh, marking the beginning of the fresh phase of the agitation on the "foreigners" issue, by and large affected the civil administration, banking, commercial activities, road transport and the railways.

— Gian Chand "Sahib" the Man Friday of Indian polo, died following a heart attack. The 62-year old Gian Chand was a walking encyclopedia of the sport.

— Gokal Lal Asawa, Rajasthan's veteran freedom fighter and former Prime Minister of the erstwhile Shahpura State, died of a sudden heart attack.

20 India's second earth observation satellite, Bhaskar-II, was launched into orbit from the Volgograd Cosmodrome in Moscow to set the country in the complex second phase of its space programme. The 44 kg. satellite carrying a T. V. camera and a microwave radio meter as its primary payload was the third Indian satellite to go up in the space this year after Rohini II on May 30 and APPLE satellite on June 19.

21 Canada agreed to give India Rs. 96.2 crores under three loan agreements signed in New Delhi. The loans were free of interest and service charges and were repayable over a period of 50 years including the grace period of ten years.

— Dr. Gangadhar Adhikari, veteran Communist Party leader and Chairman of the Control Commission of the CPI, passed away. He was 83. Dr. Adhikari was editor of the Party's central organ for many years and was arrested several times during the freedom struggle.

November 20 Deputy Minister of Railways, Mallikarjun, was given additional charge of Education and Social Welfare to assist Sheela Kaul, Minister of State for Education.

— Gurucharan Singh Tohra, a nominee of the Akali Dal (L), was unanimously elected President of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee for the ninth year at its general body meeting held in Amritsar.

21 Air Chief Marshal Dilbagh Singh, Chief of the Air Staff, left New Delhi on a seven day visit to Italy at the invitation of General Lamberto Bartolucci, Chief of Staff of the Italian Air Force.

— The All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP) launched their week long mass rally programme at block and sub-divisional level throughout the State as part of the three phased renewed movement to press for an early solution to the "foreigners" issue.

— A decision was taken in Delhi to allot Mr. Y. B. Chavan, MP, a Congress (I) seat in the Lok Sabha. A telephonic messege from Delhi to this effect was received in Pune by Mr. Chavan from the Union Commerce Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, who is also a leading member of Congress (I) Parliamentary Board.

— Lt. Gen. S. P. Malhotra, General Officer Commanding in Chief, Northen Command, has been appointed Honorary Army ADC to the President.

— Padma Shri Pandit Ravi Shanker Trivedi, renowned scholar of "Sam Veda", died after a brief illness at Padahari, his home town, about 2 km from Rajkot. He was 97.

— Vishwanath Sharma, veteran freedom fighter and one of the founders of the Kashi Vidyapeeth, died. He was 78.

— During an exchange of views in New Delhi, the visiting Ugandan President Dr. A. Milton Obote and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi shared the anxiety of developing countries over the deteriorating security as a result of big power confrontation. Dr. Obote, who was in India on a seven day State visit, also dwelled on this theme during his banquet speech in response to the President Sanjiva Reddy's remark on the increase in world tensions.

— Lakhs of angry workers demonstrated at Boat Club lawns in New Delhi against rising prices and anti labour policies of the Government, particularly the Essential Services Maintenance Act. The call was given by various trade union organisations in the country including the Centre of India Trade Unions (CITU), the All India Trade Unions Congress (AITUC), the Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) and the Indian National Trade Union Congress (Dara). In the resolution passed at the meeting, the workers demanded that the National Security Act, 1980 and the Essential Services Act be repealed. The resolution called for nation wide industrial strike on January 19.

November 23 Three non diplomatic employees of Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi including Gul Zaman, an accounts clerk, were expelled for indulging in espionage. Gul Zaman was caught "red handed" on November 21 while receiving documents and information relating to India's defence matters.

24 The 21st general conference of the Food and Agriculture Organisation has elected the Indian Planning Commission member, M. S. Swaminathan, as the President of the FAO council.

— Elegent composer and music director Raichand Boral died afrer a heart attack at his Central Calcutta home. He was 79.

— India and Uganda signed four agreements in the presence of the visiting Ugandan President Dr. Milton Obote and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi These were a trade protocol granting each other the most favoured nation treatment in the matter of exports and imports, a memorandum of understanding in the field of agricultural development, an agreement on economic, scientific and technical cooperation and a protocol on cultural cooperation.

— India termed as "puerly propagandist and retaliatory" Pakistan's action of expelling four Indian members of the embassy staff and the Karachi Consulale General for alleged espionage. Rejecting the charge of espionage against three persons, an External Affairs Ministry spokesman said that nobody had indulged in any such activity. Pakistan's action came into the wake of expulsion in New Delhi following information given by its accounts clerk Gul Zaman who had been nabbed while accepting classified documents about India's defence.

— The Lok Sabha unanimously adopted the cine workers and cinema theatre workers (regulation of employment) Bill, 1981, which seeks to end exploitation of cine workers.

— Michael Ferreria regained the world amateur billiards title thwarting a spirited fight back by Norman Dagley in a keenly contested final held in New Delhi.

November 24 Telugu film "Sankarabharanam" has won the public's prize at this year's Besancon international festivel of musical and choreographic films. It is the story of an Indian classical musician's self doubt in the face of culture and the woman dancer, who comes to his rescue.

26 Mercenaries, originating from South Africa, attempted coup d'etet in Seychelles and failing in their bid, hijackad an Air India Boeing on a routine flight from Salisbury to Bombay. The plane was seized by 6 of the 100 strong mercenaries to escape from the Seychelles military force that aborted their attempt to seize the airport near the Seychelles capital of Victoria. The plane hed 79 passengers and crew on board when it was hijacked and was forced to land at Durban where all of them were subsequently released. All the 79 passengers and the plane were scheduled to fly back to India.

— President N. Sanjiva Reddy has appointed S.A. Darai Sebastian, M.P., as member of the Minorities Commission for a period of one year with effect from the date of assumption of the charge.

— An understanding was reached between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the Akali delegation on the Akali's religious demands at their meeting in New Delhi. Both the Government and the Akali leaders described the talks as cordial and constructive. The Akalis said their leaders would condemn acts of violence and be restrained in their public speeches and press statements. The Akali delegation comprised Sant Harchand Singh Tohra, SGPC President, Prakash Singh Badal, former Punjab Chief Minister, Surjit Singh Barnala, former Union Minister and Balwant Singh, also former Chief Minister of Punjab.

— V.H. Salaskar of the Congress (I) was declared elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from the Maharashtra Assembly Constituency. The byelection was caused by the death of S.K. Vaishampayan of the same Party.

— Yog Raj, pilot of an aircraft belonging to the Bhivani Civil Aviation Club, died following the crash of his plane at Charkhi Dadra, near Bhiwani.

27 External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, arrived in Kathmandu on an official visit. During a discussion with the Nepalese Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, Narasimha Rao suggested that there should be further exchange of views among the like minded countries of South Asia on deteriorating security environment in the region.

— Gunmen robbed the State Bank of India branch on Prince Anwasr Shah Road in South Calcutta of Rs. 9 lakh. Seven robbers who came in a black Ambassador car, forced the manager, cashier and other staff members of the bank to walk into the strong room, then asked them to open the vault and took away the money.

November 27 In a snap decision the Vice Chancellor of the Saugar University, Dr D.P. Jathar, was removed from office. The decision, invoking Section 52 of the Universities Act which confers wide power on the State Government (Madhya Pradesh), was announced by the Chief Minister, Arjun Singh, at a hurriedly called press conference.

28 President Sanjiva Reddy presented the 16th Bharatiya Jananpith award to Malayalam writer Sankarankutty Kunhiraman Pattekkatt at a function in New Delhi.

— T. S. Murthy, newly appointed Vice Chancellor of Suagar University, took charge and regular classes were resumed in the University.

— Voting was held for one Lok Sabha and sixteen Assembly Constituencies. About 2 4 million voters chose their representatives from 111 aspirants, four of whom were contesting the Nandurbar (Maharashtra) Lok Sabha seat. Four of the Assembly seats were in Bihar, three each in Andhra Pradesh Gujarat and Tripura and one each in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and manipur.

29 Dharam Chandra Mishra, Congress (I) MLA (Uttar Pradesh), died at New Delhi. He represented the Milkhipur Constituency of Faizabad district.

— The Sangeet Natak Akademi awards for 1981 to outstanding artists in the field of music, dance and drama, were announced. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 5,000 and a tamrapatra. The award winners were Basavraj Rajguru (Hindustani vocal), Zia Mohinuddin Dagar (Hindustani instrumental : Rudraveen), Radha and Jayalakshmi (Carnatic vocal), Namagiripatti Krishnan (Carnatic instrumental), K. Idomoha Sharma (Manipuri Nata Sankirtana), Baidyanath Sharma (Dashkathia : Balled singing), Radha Rani (Kirtan), Vempatti Chinna Satyam (Kuchipudi dance guru), Indrani Rehman (dance practitioner), Parvati Kumar (Choreography), Kedar Nath Sahu (Seraikela Chhau), Kamini Kumar Nazare (Bodo tribal dance), Manranjan Das (Play writing : Oriya), R. S. Manohar (direction : Tamil Theatre), Chintam Goving (Acting : Marathi theatre), Ashok Srivatava (Make-up), Pazhoor Kunjan Marar (Mudiyattu : traditional theatre of Kerala), Ojha Rajuidhi (Ariba Pala of Manipur) and M. R. Ranganatha Reo (traditional puppetry of Karnataka).

November 30 India and Soviet Union signed an agreement for futher co-opration in the field of oil development. The contract signed by the Union Minister for Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilisers, P. C. Sethi and his Soviet counterpart, N. Maltsev, provides for coopration in the field of exploration, drilling, technical assistance, equipment supply and training of personnel. According to the agreement, Soviet Union would provide an analysis of geological and other data of the Himalayan foothills to select the best drilling methods in this area. Similar studies will be conducted in Rajasthan also. Soviet Union will also make an assessment of the prospects of oil and gasbearing capacity in the onland area of Cauvery Basin.

— Rajya Sabha passed the Air Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1981 to amend the Air Corporation Act, 1952. It seeks, among other things, to empower the Central Government to fix limits of any capital expenditure for purchase or acquisition of any other thing by the Indian Airlines and Air India.

December 1 Anoop Sethi of Delhi ratained the boys singles title at the junior national badminton Championship, beating Punjab's Sanjay Jain in straight games. 15-9, 15-7, at the newly built Secretariat Gymkhana indoor courts.

— The Bill to extend the enforcement of section 42 of the Pharmacy Act by another three years till September 1, 1981 was passed by the Rajya Sabha. Section 42 of the Pharmacy Act prohibits persons other than registered pharmacists preparing and dispensing medicines. The section was originally envisaged to come into force on September 1, 1981.

— Congress (I) candidate Manikrao Gavit was declared elected to the Lok Sabha from Nandurdar Constituency in Maharashtra in the by election held on November 29. He defeated his nearest rival Shankar Phugra Jadhar of Janata Party by over ,27 ,000 votes.

— India won the first cricket test against England by 138 runs with more than a day and a half to spare.

— Rajya Sabha approved the Economic Offences Amendment Bill seeking to arm the Government with greater power to deal with the economic offenders. Lok Sabha has already passed the Bill.

2 Chaudhary Amar Singh, a freedom fighter and a former Deputy Minister of Punjab, passed away at Hoshiarpur.

— Codgress (I) lost the Tamenglong (ST) Manipur Assembly seat as Jangam Lung, an Independent, was declared elected, defeating his nearest Congress (I) rival, Ningthan P. Avei by 415 votes in the by election.

December 2 Ram Phal won the first bronze medal for India in the second Asian Wrestling championship held in Lahore.

3 Eleven persons, including six women, were killed and 23 injured in an explosion in a firework factory in Nimbaji-Ki-Kho locality of Jiwani Ganj on the outskirts of Gwalior.

— India won two silver and three bronze medals to take the second position behind Iran on the third day of the Asian Wrestling Championship held in Lahore.

— President Sanjiva Reddy arrived in Djakarta on a five day State visit to Indonesia.

— The United Democratic Front has changed its name and will be known as the Naga National Democratic Party (NNDP).

4 Collecting three silver and six bronze medals, India finished third after Iran and Japan at the conclusion of the second Asian Wrestling Champinoship held in Lahore.

— Law Minister, P. Shiv Shankar, announced in Lok Sabha the reconstitution of the Law Commission which will begin to function from December 14. K. K. Mathew, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court, will be the Chairman of the Commisson.

— The Posts and Telegraph Department issued a special stamp to commemorate Indian Navy. Printed in multi colour, the 35 paise stamp was released by the Chief of Naval Staff at a function.

— Seith Mahesh Chander, a veteran journalist and freedom fighter, died following heart attack. He was 72.

— The two Houses of Parliament adjourned after observing two minute silence as a mark of respect to those who lost their lives in the stampede on the stair case of the Qutab Minar in Delhi. Home Minister, Zail Singh, announced a judicial inquiry into the circumstances of the tragedy which claimed 45 lives. Forty five persons, mostly school children, were trampled to death inside Qutab Minar as hundreds of panic stricken people stampede down the sarrow staircase when a sudden power failure turned the historic monument into a dark tower of fear.

December 5 Former Olympic hockey player, Nabi Shah, died in the Railway hospital in Jansi. A colleague of the late Dhyan Chand, Nabi Shah played Olympic hockey from 1936 to 1948.

— District and Sessions Judge (Delhi), Jagdish Chandra, was appointed to hold an inquiry into Qutab Minar's tragedy. The terms of reference of the inquiry were: exact sequence of events, causes thereof and responsibility for lapses, if any, extent of damage and steps to prevent recurrence of such incidents. The Commission will submit its report within a month.

6 At least 60 persons were burnt to death in a blaze that completely gutted a jute and wooden replica of the Himalayas set up for a religious exhibition outside the Neelakantha Mahadev temple in the labour Suburb of Asarwa in Ahmedabad.

— R. S. Murthy, Director, National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning at Nagpur, has been selected for the prestigious Borlaug award for 1980. Mr. Murthy who has spent over 25 years in the field of soil science research and land use planning is currently engaged in the important task of conducting a survey of all soil types present in India and preparing a soil map of India.

7 Mrs. Saraswati Rai, daughter-in-law of Lala Lajpat Rai, died. A social worker, Mrs. Rai was honoured for her social work by Zail Singh when he was Punjab Chief Minister. She declined to accept the cash award.

— President N. Sanjiva Reddy arrived in Kathmandu on a three day State visit. Later President Reddy and King Birendra of Nepal held talks on issues of mutual interest and expressed the view that the time has come to make more meaningful the existing bond of cooperation between the two countries.

— Railway Minister, Kedar Pandey, announced in Lok Sabha that railway freight will go up by 10 to 15 percent from January 1. The entire Opposition staged a protest walk out after attempting to prevent the Minister from announcing additional supplementary freight charge by a "simple statement" which, they said, is unprecedented.

— The Rajya Sabha adopted the Bill giving effect to the international convention on the suppression and punishment of the crime of apartheid. The Bill has already been passed by the Lok Sabha.

December 7 Seven member Indian delegation led by Eric Gonsalves, Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, arrived in Beijing to start talks on the Sino-Indian border dispute. On 10th December India and China began their talks on normalisation of relations and the baj boundry dispute after nearly 20 years. The Chinese delegation was led by Han Nianlong, Vice Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs. The Sino-Indian official level talks ended on 14th December with both sides agreeing to continue the contacts in future to pursue efforts to resolve their differences on the boundry question. According to an Indian Embassy spokesman, both sides reaffirmed their determination to strengthen friendship and work out programmes for further exchanges in other fields, while pursuing their efforts towards a boundary settlement.

8 Chief Minister of Maharashtra, A.R. Antulay, announced that Sunil Dutt, a noted film star, will be the next Sheriff of Bombay.

— Kartik Oraon (56), Minister of State for Communications, passed away in New Delhi following a heart attack. Both Houses of Parliament adjourned as a mark of respect to him.

— Khwaja Mubarak Shah, M.P. and a former J and K Minister, died in New Delhi after a prolonged illness. He represented the National Conference from the Baramulla Lok Sabha Constitutency of Kashmir.

10 A.M. Abdul Hamid, formerly Press Secretary to the President, has been appointed member of the Union Public Service Commission.

— At least 58 people were killed and scores wounded when a severe cyclonic storm coupled with high tides lashed the coastal South 24-parganas and Midnapore district of West Bengal.

— The Cine Workers and Cinema Theatre Workers (Regulation of Employment) Bill, 1981, which seeks to extend necessary safeguards to low paid artists and technicians engaged in the production of feature films, secured Parliamentary approval with the Rajya Sabha adopting it.

— India and China opened their first border and normalisation talks in Beijing after almost 20 years in an effort to improve their relations.

— President Sanjive Reddy returned to New Delhi after an eight day State visit to Indonesia and Nepal.

December 10 The Punjab Ministry was expanded with the induction of two Cabinet Ministers, five Ministers of State and one Deputy Minister. The oath of office and secrecy was administred in the Raj Bhawan to all the new incumbents by Governor, Aminuddin Ahmad Khan.

— Thirty persons were feared killed and several others injured when a "sky bunker" of Kotama colliery in Sahdol district caved in according to reports received in Jabalpur.

11 The nonagenarian renowned Sanskrit scholar, Prabhakara Umamaheswara Pandit, died. Mr Pandit was asthana vidwan of Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthana. He wrote over 100 books in Sanskrit and Telugu propagating Hindu thought, dharma and culture. He was editor of the magazine, 'Dharma Darshan' and founded the Bharatiya Dharma Pracharaka Mission.

— Twenty five persons, including several women, were killed in an accident when a private chartered bus, carrying employees of the New Okhla Industrial Development Area (NOIDA), plunged into 15 foot deep waters of the Hodal mini canal near the Chilla regulator in East Delhi after ploughing through the protective concrete railing on the side of the canal.

12 The Bihar Government issued shoot at sight order against all those indulging in obstruction or sabotage of essential services as the strike by non gazetted employees entered the second day, paralysing the working of the Secretaritate Patna and offices of collectors all over the State. The Government revived a notification, first issued in 1978, declaring the strike as illegal and warning the employees that it would strictly enforce the "no work, no pay" provision.

— Prof. Rameshwar Jha, an eminent Sanskrit scholar and President's award winner, died. He was 78. prof. Jha was awarded the degree of "Mahamahopadhyay" by Banaras Hindu University (BHU).

— Shambhoonath Saxana, editor of a local (Gwalior) daily "Niranjan", died after a heart attack. He was 63.

— While laying a copy of the Jitendar Narayan Commission report in Bihar Assembly on the 1979 Jamshedpur communal riots, Chief Minister. Jagannath Mishra, announced the ban on meetings of the RSS, Jamat-e-Islami and Anand Marg in the campuses of private or Government institutions, public places or municipal areas through out the State.

13 Border Security Force lifted Durand Cup by winning over Jagajit Cotton Textile Mills (Phagwara).

December 13	The Punjab and Haryana High Court Judge, Justice Bhupinder Singh Dhillon, died in Phagwara following a heart attack. He was 50.
—	Santosha, one of the two principal suspects in the Deoli (Uttar Pradesh) carnage in which 24 Harijans were gunned down on November 18, was arrested in Kanpur.
—	Veteran Gujarati journalist, Yagneshwar Harihar Shukla, died following a heart attack. He was 73. Mr. Shulka was associated with dailes like 'Hindustan', Prajamitra', 'Janmabhumi', 'Vande Matram', and 'Bombay Samachar'.
14	Dr. Ram Behari, eminent educationist and scholar, died. He was 85. Dr. Behari received the U.P. Education Minister's gold medal in 1943 for excellence in research and later served as Vice Chancellor of Jodhpur University from 1964 to 1966. Dr. Behari was elected member of the International Commission of Mathematical Instruction and was also President of the Indian Mathematical Society for a number of years.
—	Police resorted to a mild lathi charge at two places in Nowgong district, fired teargas shells and arrested about 20-persons all over Assam as the Assam agitators launched the programme to force a solution to the foreigners issue. The arrest figure of 200 included about 150 preventive arrestse Those arrested included AASU adviser Lalit Kuma.r Rajkhowa.
—	The Rajya Sabha approved the Bill for setting up the Apex National Agricultural Bank. The Bill has earlier been adopted by the Lok Sabha.
—	The Second Criket test between India and England ended in a draw. The match was played in Bangalore.
15	Dr. J.N. Dixit was appointed the new Ambassador to Afghanistan.
—	India will get two submarines from West Germany following a contract signed with German Shipyard, HDW in New Delhi. The two submarines will be built to Indian specifications at HDW Shipyard for outright purchase by India.
—	The Reserve Bank of India announced a 0.58 percent downward revision of the rupee against pound sterling to a new middle rate of Rs. 17.10 to the pound from Rs. 17.00. The new buying and selling rates for spot delivery were 5.3617 and 5.8343 pound sterling per 100 rupees corresponding to Rs. 17.00 and Rs. 17.14 per pound sterling respectively.

December 15 Sixteen persons, including three women, were killed and 20 seriously injured when a Midnapore bound local train hit a tourist bus near a railway crossing about 8 km from Kharagpur station. The tourist bus carrying 53 Jain pilgrims was coming from Nasik.

16 Prof Shrikrishna Gopal Hulyalkar, noted educationist and former Principal of Sir Parsharambhau (SLP) College in Pune, died following a heart attack. He was 70.

17 K. Venkataramiah has been appointed a member of the Union Public Service Commission for a six year term.

18 The Government of India decided to extend President's rule in Assam which lapses on December 29 by another six months.

— Ishtiaq Ali. a veteran cricketer and a younger brother of renowned batsman Mustaq Ali, died in Indore. He was 65.

— Preet Mohan Singh Mallik, High Commissioner to Tanzania, has been concurrently accredited as High Commissioner to Seychelles with residence in Dar-es-Salaam.

20 The ten day old strike by the six lakh non gazetted employees and teachers, which had crippled the functioning of Bihar's administration was called off.

21 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi assured Arab Ambassadors (West Asia), that India would continue to support the Arab cause in the present crisis created by the Israeli decision to annex the occupied Syrian territory of Golan Heights She gave this assurance when six ambassadors called on her to apprise her of the present situation in West Asia.

— The veteran Akali leader, Jathedar Santokh Singh (52), was shot dead outside a West Delhi Gurudwara shortly after a Gurupurab function.

22 The pound sterling has become cheaper by ten paise following the upvaluation of the rupee by 0.58 percent by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

23 Bajrang Lal replaced P.S. Bhinder as Delhi's Police Commissioner. The transfer order were rather sudden and took the city be surprise.

— The Lok Sabha unanimously passed the African Development Fund Bill which seeks to implement certain provisions of the agreement establishing the Fund and to empower the Government to make payment of it.

December 23	P.K. Kakkan, former Tamil Nadu Minister and freedom fighter, died in Madras after prolonged illness.
—	V.N. Srirama Desikachariar, a renowned Sanskrit scholar, died after a heart attack. He was 61.
24	The executive board of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has approved a $ 25 million loan to India.
—	India and USSR signed a trade protocol for 1982 providing for the trade turnover to go upto Rs. 3,264 crores during the year. The protocal implies an 11 percent increase in trade turnover next year over that envisaged for 1981.
—	Parliament approved, by a voice vote, the extension of President's rule in Assam by six months from December 30 with the Rajya Sabha adopting a statutory resolution to this effect moved by Home Minister, Zail Singh.
—	Parliament gave its approval to the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Bill, which seeks to restore to Aligarh Muslim University its "minority character" with the Rajya Sabha passing it late at night
—	The World Bank announced a $ 300 million loan to India to help finance expanded capacity of the Ramagundam Thermal Power Station in Andhra Pradesh.
26	Veteran film actress Savitri, who dominated the Tamil and Telugu screen for well over two decades, died in a city nursing home.
27	Congress (S) President, Shard Pawar, suspended Kerala Pradesh Congress (S) Committee Chief, A.K. Anthony, Working Committee member Vayalar Rayi and their supporters from the primary membership of the Party for joining hands with the Congress (I) to form a Ministry in Kerala.
—	D.P. Pandey, freedom fiighter, who had taken an active part in the Chauri Chaura agitation in which several policemen were burnt to death in 1921, died. He was 86.
—	H.M. Trivedi, former Union Minister of Transport and Shipping, died in Bombay after a brief illness.
—	V. Chandrasekhar, Idnu Puri and Sanjay Ghorpade emerged mens, womens and boys National Table Tennis Champions in matches held in Palghat.
28	D.U. Rao, a former finance member of the Railway Board, died. He was 69.

December 28 The eight members of the Democratic Front coalition Kerala Ministry headed by Congress (I) leader K. Karunakaran were sworn in by Governor, Jyoti Vencatachellum, at Raj Bhavan. This brought to an end the 68 day old President's rule imposed on October 20 following the resignation of the Nayanar Ministery.

— Kali Kant Jha, former Chairman of the board of Directors of United News of India, died. Mr. Jha, who was 64, was former Manager and Secretary of the Newspapers and Publications Ltd., publisher of Indian Nation and Aryavarta.

— Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh agreed to make necessary provisions for meeting their share of the cost towards construction of the Sardar Sarovar Dam under the Narmada project. Maharashtra Chief Minister, A.R. Antulay, and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister, Arjun Singh, agreed in a meeting convened by Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh, that they would make the necessary provisions in their budget for the purpose.

— The newly elected President of the Shiromani Akali Dal (Master Tara Singh faction), Jathedar Rachhpal Singh said that his Party is opposed to "Khalistan" and would work for the unity and the integrity of the country. He told a press conference in New Delhi that Khalistan movement is engineered by a few "misguided and selfish persons" and all the Akali Dals are opposed to it.

— Saligram Jaiswal, veteran politician and freedam fighter, died. He was 77. Mr. Jaiswal, popularly known as "Mantriji", was Health Minister of Uttar Pradesh and a member of the State Legislative Conucil.

— The Supreme Court upheld the Constitutional validity of the LIC (Amendment) Act, 1981, and the rules formulated under it for streamlining the wage structure, bonus, and service conditions of LIC employees.

— The Supreme Court upheld the Constitutional validity of the National Security Ordinance, 1980 and National Security Act (NSA) which replaced it, but set down guidelines to safeguard the interests of the detenus. While Chief Justice of India, Y.V. Chandrachud delivered judgement on behalf of himself, Justice P.N. Bhagwati and Justice D.A. Desai, A.G. Gupta and Justice V.D. Tulzapurar, the other members of the five Judge constitution bench, differed on certain issues and handed down a separate judgement order.

28 The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate, Ramprasad Ahirwar, was declared elected to the Lok Sabha from the Sagar Parliamentary Constituency defeating his nearest

Congress (I) rival, Shyam Lal Thakkar, by 4,025 votes in a six cornered contest. The by election was caused following the death of Sahodra Rai (Congress-I), who had won this seat in 1980 elections by a margin of 71,751 votes.

December 29 Congress (I) candidate, Handa Joga, was declared elected to the Legislative Assembly (Madhya Pradesh) from Konta (ST) Constitutency in Bastar district by defeating his nearest (BJP) rival, Handma Masa, by 103 votes in a four cornered contest.

— In Andhra Pradesh, a new Political Party "Praja Congress" came into being in the State. The formation of the Party is a direct off shoot of the spate of expulsions and suspensions of Partymen from the ruling Congress (I) Party in connection with the Legislative Council elections.

— India extended a credit of Rs. 1 crore to People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. An agreement to this effect was signed in New Delhi by S.V.S. Juneja, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Othman Abdul Gabbar Rashed, Deputy Minister of Industry and leader of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen elegation.

30 Dr. A.G. Pawar, former Vice Chancellor of Shivaji University, Kolhapur and former Director of Education, Maharashtra, died. He was 75.

— Former Railway Minister, Madhu Dandavate, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, M.P. and former Maharashtra Minister, Nihar Ahmed, were arrested along with thousands of Janata Party workers at various placed in Maharashtra. It was the penultimate day of the ten day State wide (Maharashtra) farmers Satygraha, according to Party sources.

— The Government extended the sale of Special Bearer Bonds till January 9, 1982. The second stage of sales, which started on December 1, 1981, would have ended today.

— The seven Judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, upheld by a majority verdict, the transfer of the Patna High Court Chief Justice K.B.N. Singh to the Madras High Court, dropping of S.N. Kumar as an Additional Judge of the Delhi High Court and the Union Law Minister's circular of March 18, 1981 for obtaining consent of Additional High Court Judges and prospective appointees to High Courts outside the States. Delivering the verdict, the Bench headed by Justice P.N. Bhagwati, dismissed all writ petitions, the actions of the Government under challenge were, however, upheld by a majority of a varying number of Judges.

— The two day national convention of the Youth Congress (I) ended at Bangalore with the adoption of an economic resolution which supports the priorities of the Central Government as reflected in the 25 point economic programme.

December 31 In a fresh incident of mass kllling in Uttar Pradesh, an unidentified gang ruthlessly gunned down 10 Jatav Harijans, including five women and 3 children. The incident took place in Sadhupor village of Shikohabad tehsil of Mainpuri district.

— The prolonged dispute between Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan over the sharing of the Ravi Beas waters ended with the signing of an agreement by the Chief Ministers of the three States in the presence of the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The Governments of Punjab and Haryana have agreed to withdraw the suits filed by them in the Suprme Court "without any reservations whatsoever but subject to the terms of the agreement"

— Three persons were killee and ten injured when police fired to dispere a mob trying to set up a road blockade at Dimow, 13 km from Nowgong (Assam), Rasta Roko stir. An indefinite curfew was clamped in the area and troops were deployed in view of the prevailing tension.

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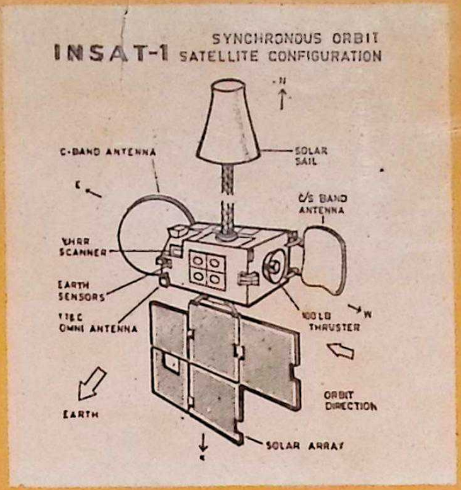
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